

## **RC19 Newsletter - December 2022**

### **Presidential Letter 2022**

Dear RC19 Members:

This is my last presidential letter. During the first months of 2023, elections will take place to select a new RC19 board and its President. I became President of RC19 in 2014 and I was reelected in 2018 for a second and last four-year term, which was extended by an additional year because of the pandemic and the postponement of the XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, which will take place in mid-2023 rather than in mid-2022, as initially planned.

My sustained involvement with RC19 began in 2003, when I presented at the 2003 RC19 annual conference in Toronto. Three years later, I was elected as Secretary Treasurer of RC19, a position I held until I became President in 2014. I love RC19 and I have made many friends among its members, over the years. As a President of RC19, I have tried to make this research committee even more global and interdisciplinary in scope. This is the case because social policy research is impossible without considering seriously both global trends and other disciplinary perspectives.

I very much hope that many of you will want to run in the forthcoming RC19 elections, which you will learn more about in the forthcoming weeks, when the Nomination Committee chaired by former RC19 President Joakim Palme will spring into action. I also hope that you will invite people you know, especially junior scholars, to join RC19. We also need as many of you to become or remain member of ISA. This is the case because it is the number of RC19 members who belong to ISA that determines the number of sessions we can organize at the ISA forums and congresses, among other things.

Looking in the rearview mirror at the year that is ending, I would like to thank Jolanta Aidukaitė and the other organizers of the 2022 RC19 annual conference, which took place in Vilnius in late August. The conference was well organized and highly successful, despite the challenges associated with hybrid delivery (i.e. combination of in-person and online participation). We are currently looking at potential venues for the 2024 RC19 annual meeting so feel free to contact me or another board member if you have any suggestions about this.

Regarding the forthcoming XX ISA World Congress of Sociology, I want once again to thank RC19 Board Member Enrique Delamonica (UNICEF) and Professor Tracy Fenwick (Australian National University) for their hard work as RC19 program coordinators. The RC19 program at the ISA World Congress will feature a special keynote by Professor Peter Whiteford and 18 paper sessions of a diverse array of topics. You will receive more information about these sessions once the full program for the ISA World Congress becomes available.

As an organization, RC19 thrives only when members provide feedback about how to improve our activities and our work as an organization. Like in the past, the RC19 Board always welcomes your advice about how to make our organization better and more successful, in the years to come. No organization can survive and thrive without committed board members and members at large, and we have many of them. Thank you again to you for supporting RC19 and please do tell your colleagues, friends, and students who are not yet members to join the organization and participate in our activities.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel Béland, President of RC19 and James McGill Professor, McGill University

Calls for Papers**International Journal of Social Welfare****Large Families: Prevalence, Poverty and Policy****Submission deadline: Saturday, 1 July 2023**

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/page/journal/14682397/homepage/call-for-papers/si-2022-010993>

Recent studies show that large families are much more common than assumed in wealthy nations (Bujard et al., 2019; Curran, 2021; Fahey, 2017), but receive little attention in research and social policy discourse. There is much research on the impact of sibling numbers on children's development and later life outcomes, but in the literature on income inequality and poverty, family size – especially large family size – attracts little contemporary scholarly debate. This special issue aims to revive interest in this under-acknowledged area of children and families' lives and make the case for mainstreaming family size in social policy research moving forward, as both a key socio-demographic variable of interest and as a potential risk factor for inequality and poverty among children.

The special issue aims to challenge our understanding of the contemporary large family and offers alternative policy discussion to an area either overlooked altogether or divided by stigma and stereotypes. By highlighting the social circumstances of these families and the prevalence of children growing up in poverty, the special issue also gives a voice to these marginalised and hidden families through robust empirical studies. This renewed research focus on large families aims to inform welfare reforms across countries, in particular around providing adequate economic support measures, reducing stigma, and appropriate family support interventions. The goal is to refocus inequality and poverty studies on an important, but often overlooked, aspect of contemporary family circumstances: family size.

Well into the 20th century, growing up in a large, two-parent household was common for children across high-income countries (Bradshaw et al., 2006; Lunn et al., 2009). It was also a recognised risk factor for child poverty (Kamerman et al., 2003; Myrdal, 1944). Many countries also targeted social protection schemes accordingly, establishing child allowances and similar cash programmes to support families with many children. Indeed, a common drive behind the enactment of child allowances across countries was the acknowledgement of the inadequacy of the market in providing a 'family wage'. But in the last decades of the 20th century, two primary ideas solidified across high-income countries: the idea that the primary risk factor for child poverty was a lone parent household and that work was the pathway out of poverty (Fletcher, 2015; Peck, 2001; Pulkingham et al., 2010).

Reforms to family cash transfers fixated on a particular family type: female-headed single parent households. English-speaking countries saw the emergence of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (US), New Deal for Lone Parents (UK), and the One-Parent Family Payment (Ireland). Indeed across the OECD, the first decades of the 21st century, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, saw financial support for lone parents across OECD countries increase or hold steady in the face of declines in cash benefits for two-parent families (Daly 2016).

Other family types – especially those with larger family sizes – had effectively fallen off the policy radar. But large families did not disappear (Curran, 2019; Fahey, 2017).

While the average family size of women across developed countries is now two children, a substantial amount of children still grow up in larger families. For example, near to one out of every five children in the US and UK and one out of every four in Ireland live in families with four or more children today (Curran, 2019). Studies looking across a range of European countries have revealed large family size to pose a similar poverty risk to children as living in a lone-parent household (Cantillon & Van den Bosch, 2002; Curran, 2019; Reader & Andersen, 2022) and the European Commission acknowledged, in recent years, that larger families are among the most economically vulnerable alongside single parent-families (OECD 2022; European Commission 2019).

**This special issue welcomes in particular articles that explore three central questions and contribute to our understanding of whether and why family size should be central to our contemporary understanding of poverty and social policy:**

- What constitutes a large family today? Some studies draw the line at three children (Bujard et al., 2019; Cantillon & Van den Bosch, 2002), while other estimates consider four and more children (Bradshaw et al 2006; Curran 2019). In popular – and potentially harmful – discourses, two competing stereotypes often dominate the debate and media portrayals that the modern large family is either a rich one (purposefully large to show they can afford to be) or a poor one (purposefully to claim child-related benefits). We will feature articles that examine the definition of the modern large family and why measurement matters. These articles can explore the definition and measurement of the modern large family and identify who large families are today, including whether they share distinct features within and across countries. Moreover, we encourage articles that challenge stigmas and the contemporary exclusion of large families from poverty and social policy research.
- How do large families fare? We welcome articles that examine large family outcomes across domains including health, income poverty, material deprivation, and inequality. A particular spotlight is shown on the outcomes for children growing up in large families today and the interactions between number of siblings, family resources, and child poverty, with implications for family supports and social work practice. Identifying large families as a relevant disadvantaged family type has policy implications for social service resource allocation and targeted interventions.
- How are large families recognised within social policy? Comparative social policy analysis and family policy research has paid little attention to how large families fare in tax and transfer systems. Social policy interventions targeted at large families now range from punitive to pro-natal policies across countries. On one side of the coin, countries cap tax and social benefits at a particular family size – such as the UK’s two-child limit or the US’s Earned Income Tax Credit. We also observe a slow neglect of benefits specifically aimed at children in large families – for example, Germany and Ireland have eradicated traditionally higher rates of child benefit for the third and subsequent children. On the pro-natal side of the coin, policies in parts of Eastern Europe have been introduced that specifically support children in large families. The issue will include both single-country and comparative policy articles that analyse social policy interventions impacting large families and reveal the policy differences and effects on large families both at national and global level.

This special issue aims to revive this under-recognised perspective on inequality and poverty risk for children and families. We invite articles that address large families from diverse disciplinary backgrounds, a range of methodological perspectives that include the voices of large families themselves. Authors are reminded to align their article to the aims and scope of IJSW, i.e. all articles require a clear emphasis on social policy themes in the context of large family size, either in a national or comparative context. Moreover, discussions of empirical findings should consider policy implications for social workers, practitioners, and decisionmakers.

**Guest Editors:**

[Megan Curran](#)

Columbia University, United States

[Stephan Köppe](#)

University College Dublin, Ireland

**Submission Guidelines/Instructions**

1 March 2023: Submit title and abstracts by email to guest editors (optional, but highly encouraged for acceptance).

1 July 2023: Submit full manuscript via Research Exchange for external peer review (required).

February 2024: Early view of most articles.

Spring/Summer 2024: Special Issue publication.

Authors are encouraged to submit the title and abstract of their planned article by 1 March 2023 by email to the guest editors ([megan.curran@columbia.edu](mailto:megan.curran@columbia.edu), [stephan.koeppe@ucd.ie](mailto:stephan.koeppe@ucd.ie) with subject line: IJSW Large Fam abstract). This is optional, but highly recommended for acceptance. Full manuscripts are due 1 July by online submission through [Research Exchange](#). Submissions must adhere to the journal [author guidelines](#) and are subject to peer-review. In both the submission box in the [Research Exchange](#) online form and cover letter, clearly state you are submitting to the IJSW Large Fam special issue.

**Job Announcements**



UNIVERSITÉ DE FRIBOURG  
UNIVERSITÄT FREIBURG

**Senior Researcher Position (Oberassistentz, 50%, 5-year fixed term)  
from 1 June 2023**

**in the Division of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work,  
University of Fribourg, Switzerland**

We are offering an attractive position with the opportunity for academic senior qualification (Habilitation) in our interdisciplinary division of sociology, social policy and social work. We are an international team with quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods expertise researching a broad array of social issues in global perspective and drawing on sociological, social policy and social work approaches.

The position entails:

- Leading independent research and collaborating in research projects
- Supervision of student projects and placements on BA and MA level
- Contributing to the Department's BA and MA degree programmes in Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work with the teaching of 2-3 courses per academic year
- Contributing to the Department's peer-reviewed open access journal *social policy.ch* as member of the editorial team

Requirements:

- Doctorate/PhD in sociology, social policy or social work
- Extensive experience in conducting empirical research
- Excellent methodological skills; openness to qualitative and quantitative methods; experience of mixed-methods approaches desirable
- High competence to work independently as well as to collaborate in a team
- Proficiency in German (fluent in speech and writing) and in English; French language skills desirable

The salary is set in accordance with the remuneration regulations of the Canton Fribourg. The position can be extended with an additional teaching contract.

For further information on the Division of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work go to: [www.unifr.ch/sopa](http://www.unifr.ch/sopa)

For questions please contact Prof Dr Ingela Naumann or Prof Dr Andreas Hadjar.

**Phone: +41 26 300 77 81/96, E-Mail: [sopa@unifr.ch](mailto:sopa@unifr.ch).**

**Application Deadline: 15 January 2023**

Please send your application - including supporting letter, CV, copies of degree certificates, two examples of recent publications - in electronic format to [sopa@unifr.ch](mailto:sopa@unifr.ch), to the attention of Prof Naumann and Prof Hadjar, Division of Sociology, Social Policy and Social Work, Route des Bonnesfontaines 11, CH-1700 Fribourg, Switzerland.

## 10 Research Positions (Doctoral Researchers) at Bielefeld University, Germany

The Research Training Group focuses on the emergence of world politics as a distinct field of the political embedded in a world society environment. Rather than reducing world politics and its history to a range of dominant organisational forms, such as nation-states or empires, and the relations between them, the group adopts a comprehensive perspective covering the processes and practices that underpin the emergence of world politics as a highly complex social realm. Accordingly, it builds on the expertise of different fields – International Relations, Sociology (world society theories), Global History, and International Law, in order to situate itself in, as well as contribute to, a fast-growing international research landscape of 'global historical sociology'.

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### Your Tasks

As part of the Research Training Group "World politics: The emergence of political arenas and modes of observation in world society", funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG), ten doctoral positions with a maximum funding period of three years will be filled as of 1 October 2023.

The research tasks include:

- implementation of a research project related to the Research Training Group's programme and the corresponding preparation of a research report/publication
- participation in the academic programme of the Research Training Group
- participation in the obligatory programme of events

The Research Training Group offers doctoral students the opportunity to carry out their doctoral projects in a closely networked research environment. In addition to employment, some financial support will be provided for the organisation of workshops, for travel to conferences and for research stays abroad. In case of completing the doctorate within three years, there is also the possibility of applying for subsequent post-doc start-up financial support.

Employment is conducive to scientific qualification.

### Your Profile

We expect

- completed scientific university degree (Master/Magister, Diploma or equivalent) in political science, international relations, history, sociology or law
- ability and willingness for preparation of a research report/publication in the fields of political science/international relations, history, sociology or law, which contribute to the Research Training Group research programme (for further information on the research programme see: <https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/worldpolitics/>)
- excellent command of English (the group's working language is English)

#### Preferred experience and skills

- scientific publications in the subject area of the Research Training Group

#### We offer

- salary according to Remuneration level 13 TV-L
- fixed-term (36 months) (§ 2 (1) of the WissZeitVG ; in accordance with the provisions of the WissZeitVG and the Agreement on Satisfactory Conditions of Employment, the length of contract may differ in individual cases)
- part-time 65 %
  
- internal and external training opportunities
- variety of health, consulting and prevention services
- reconcilability of family and work
- flexible working hours
- job ticket for regional public transport network, good transport connection
- supplementary company pension
- collegial working environment
- open and pleasant working atmosphere
- exciting and varied activities
- modern working environment with digital processes
- diverse offers (canteen, cafeteria, restaurants, university shop, cash machines, etc.)

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#### Application Procedure

We are looking forward to receiving your application (incl. cover letter, CV, research proposal (max. 10 pages)) in English language. For full consideration, your application should be received via either email (a single PDF document is required) sent to [grk2225@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:grk2225@uni-bielefeld.de) or post (see postal address). Please mark your application with the identification code: Wiss22807. Please note that the possibility of privacy breaches and unauthorized access by third parties cannot be excluded when communicating via unencrypted e-mail. For Information on the processing of personal data [click here](#).

**application deadline: 15.04.2023**

#### Contact

Dr. Mustafa Aksakal  
+49 521 106-12665  
[grk2225@uni-bielefeld.de](mailto:grk2225@uni-bielefeld.de)

## Call for Applications

### **2 Doctoral Scholarships in the DAAD Graduate School Scholarship Program “Global Dynamics of Social Policy and Social Cohesion” (GSPSC) at the Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS)**

The Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences (BIGSSS) invites applications for 2 scholarships for international doctoral researchers in its new Graduate School Scholarship Program “Global Dynamics of Social Policy and Social Cohesion” (GSPSC), funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). BIGSSS is an international inter-university graduate school in the social sciences, located at the University of Bremen and Jacobs University Bremen, Germany. Successful applicants will receive a Ph.D. scholarship from the DAAD of 1.200 €/month (plus additional benefits) for 48 months.

The program focuses on the question of how social policy and social cohesion are related on a global, regional or national level. Comparative or transnational perspectives that address interdependencies between the Global South and North are especially welcome. Single country case studies may scrutinize the complex interlinkages between social policy and social cohesion.

**Potential dissertation projects may address one or more of the following topics and/or questions:**

1. What are the specific forms or instances of social cohesion or social dis/integration that trigger the establishment of social policy? When and how do divisions between social groups (classes, ethnic groups, etc.) translate into political cleavages that involve a mobilization for social policies aimed at strengthening social cohesion?
2. Which forms of social policy increase or decrease social cohesion? Are there also disintegrative effects of social policy? Are there specific forms of social policy that are especially contested between groups?
3. Are there functional equivalents to the welfare state fostering social integration?
4. Can social orders be stable without institutions designed to ensure social cohesion?

The English-language doctoral program includes a structured curriculum and close guidance by experienced researchers while at the same time fostering early academic independence and creativity by providing support for conducting, presenting, and publishing the Ph.D. fellows' self-chosen research DAAD Graduate School Scholarship Program (GSSP) “Global Dynamics of Social Policy and Social Cohesion” (GSPSC) 2 projects. The program is characterized by interdisciplinary collaboration between researchers from sociology, political science, psychology, and economics.



### Requirements

We invite applications from exceptional international candidates with strong academic abilities and a Master's degree (or equivalent) in sociology, political science, psychology, or economics. Potential candidates with a degree in related disciplines are also welcome. Applicants have to demonstrate a broad thematic fit between the dissertation proposal and the corresponding Principal Investigator's outlined research interests. All accepted researchers are asked to move to Bremen for the program's duration, as a presence at the institution is required. Eligibility, application, and further information

You are eligible if you are an international applicant proficient in English language (speaking & writing, proof of C1-level English language skills or the equivalent). We particularly encourage applications from the Global South. In addition, you must not have resided in Germany any time after February 1, 2022. General information on the program and the PIs, a list of required application materials, and how to apply can be found at: <https://www.bigsss-bremen.de/academic-program/daad-graduate-school-scholarship-program> Applications must be submitted online until January 23, 2023 (11:59pm CET). For additional inquiries, please check the program's website and feel free to contact our Admissions Officer Monika Liorentaite-Rossdeutscher at [admissions-officer@bigsss-bremen.de](mailto:admissions-officer@bigsss-bremen.de). Find additional information about the GSSP program line founded by the German Academic Exchange Service's here: [daad.de/go/en/stipa57034100](https://daad.de/go/en/stipa57034100). The official start of the program is scheduled for September 1, 2023. As equal opportunity employers, both universities follow an equal opportunity and diversity strategy. They strive to increase the number of women in academia and strongly encourage applications from suitably qualified female candidates. Disabled persons with the same professional and personal qualifications will be given preference

### Publications

Adua, L., Lobao L. (2021). The Political-Economy of Local Land-Use Policy: Place-Making and the Relative Power of Business, Civil Society, and Government. *The Sociological Quarterly* 62 (3):413-428. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00380253.2020.1756517>

Byun, Y. (2022). Welfare Expansion without Inequality Reduction: Institutional Explanation of Old-Age Poverty in Korea. Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0047279422000460>

Béland, D., Jingwei He, A. (eds.) (2022). Special Issue: COVID-19, Inequalities, and Public Policies. *Policy and Society*, 41(2): 187-320. <https://academic.oup.com/policyandsociety/issue/41/2>

Béland, D., Campbell, A. L., Weaver, R. K. (2022). Policy Feedback: How Policies Shape Politics. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press (Cambridge Elements Series). <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108938914>

De Sena, Angélica (2023) "Pandemic, Social Policies and Emotions in the Metropolitan Area of Buenos Aires" (chap 7), in Scribano, A y Roche Carcel, J (Ed) *Emotions Emotions and Society in Difficult Times* ISBN: 1-5275-9050-X , ISBN13: 978-1-5275-9050-2. Cambridge Scholars Publishing UK. Pp 140-162, total 205.

De Sena, Angélica; Dettano, Andrea y Cena, Rebeca (2022). "Chasing the Research Object: Social Policies and Emotions in Virtual Spaces" (Chap 10) in Scribano, A; Korstanje, M y Rafele, M (ed) *Global Emotion Communications: Narratives, Technology, and Power*. DOI: 10.52305/RLBB3285 ISBN: 979-8-88697-269-6. Nova Ed.

Garrizmann, J. L., Häusermann, S., Palier, B. (2022). Social investments in the knowledge economy: The politics of inclusive, stratified, and targeted reforms across the globe. *Social Policy & Administration* 57 (1). <https://doi.org/10.1111/spol.12874>

Golden, D., Erne, R. (2022) Ryanair pilots: Unlikely pioneers of transnational collective action. *European Journal of Industrial Relations* 28 (4): 451-469. Full text: <https://doi.org/10.1177/09596801221094740>

Kelly, P., Lobao, L. (2021). Whose Needs Matter?: The Local Welfare State, Poverty, and Variation in US Counties' Social Service Provisioning. *Social Currents* 8 (6):566-590. <https://doi.org/10.1177/23294965211047886>

Lobao, L., Tsvetkova, A., Hooks, G., Partridge, M. (2021). Seeing the Local State: Poverty and Income Inequality across the United States during the Great Recession. *Sociology of Development* 7 (3): 253-284. <https://doi.org/10.1525/sod.2019.0017>

Nakray, K., Yi, Z., Clammer, J., Zhang, W. (eds.) (2022). *Social and Economic Transitions in China and India. Welfare and Policy Changes*. Palgrave Macmillan Singapore. open access: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-19-6124-3>

Schoyen, M., Hvinden, B., Dotterud Leiren, M. (eds.) (2022). *Towards Sustainable Welfare States in Europe: Social Policy and Climate Change*. Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar Publishing. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781839104633>

Greer, S. L., Béland, D., Lecours, A., Dubin, K. A. (2023). Putting Federalism in its Place: The Territorial Politics of Social Policy Revisited. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. [https://www.press.umich.edu/12237580/putting\\_federalism\\_in\\_its\\_place](https://www.press.umich.edu/12237580/putting_federalism_in_its_place)

Szabó, I. G., Golden, D. Erne, R. (2022) Why Do some Labour Alliances Succeed in Politicizing Europe Across Borders? A Comparison of the Right2Water and Fair Transport European Citizens' Initiatives. *Journal of Common Market Studies*, 60 (3): 634-652. Full text  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9299583/>

Yörük, E. (2022). *The Politics of the Welfare State in Turkey How Social Movements and Elite Competition Created a Welfare State*. University of Michigan Press.  
[https://www.press.umich.edu/11429032/politics\\_of\\_the\\_welfare\\_state\\_in\\_turkey](https://www.press.umich.edu/11429032/politics_of_the_welfare_state_in_turkey)

Four chapters from the *World Politics of Social Investment* two volumes are now available in open access via OUP: From, ***The World Politics of Social Investment: Volume I: Welfare States in the Knowledge Economy*** Julian L. Garritzmann (ed.), Silja Häusermann (ed.), Bruno Palier (ed.)

- Chapter 2 The Politics of Social Investment: A Global Theoretical Framework :  
<https://academic.oup.com/book/43098/chapter/361570262>

- Chapter 4 : The Politics of European Union's Social Investment Initiatives, by Caroline de la Porte, Bruno Palier  
<https://academic.oup.com/book/43098/chapter/361571014>

- Chapter 16: The Politics of Social Investment in the Knowledge Economy: Analytical Insights from a Global Comparison  
<https://academic.oup.com/book/43098/chapter/361579229>

From ***The World Politics of Social Investment: Volume II: The Politics of Varying Social Investment Strategies*** Get access Arrow, Julian L. Garritzmann (ed.), Silja Häusermann (ed.), Bruno Palier (ed.)

- Chapter 17: How Democracies Transform Their Welfare States: The Reform Trajectories and Political Coalitions of Inclusive, Stratified, and Targeted Social Investment Strategies in Capitalist Democracies by Bruno Palier, Julian L. Garritzmann, Silja Häusermann, and Francesco Fioritto  
<https://academic.oup.com/book/41905/chapter/354764069>