



Contents

- 2 Message from the Coordinator
Edward Tolhurst
- 4 ESA RN01 Midterm Conference INFO
- 5 Book – Author’s Insights
Esther Ramsay-Jones
- 8 PhD highlight
Esien Eddy Bruno
- 12 Project overview
Mobile Ageing
- 16 Network
- 17 Meet the Board

Newsletter of the ESA Research Network on Ageing in Europe (RN01)

Dear Readers,

*In this spring 2020 edition of our newsletter, we welcome an overview on recently published book “Holding Time: Human Need and Relationships in Dementia Care” by **Esther Ramsay-Jones**. We are delighted to provide a PhD highlight from **Esien Eddy Bruno**. Also featured in the newsletter is the research project **Mobile Ageing** which discusses You will also find information on the ESA RN01 **Mid-term Conference** and profiles of the Ageing in Europe **board members**.*



*Please note that **our next newsletter**, which will be released in early summer, will focus on the **COVID-19** situation in Europe.*

Editorial Board for this issue:

Oana Ciobanu
University of Geneva

Edward Tolhurst
Staffordshire University

Konrad Turek
University of Amsterdam

Message from the Coordinator of the Network



Dear Colleagues

Welcome to the Network's spring newsletter for 2020. I very much hope that you are keeping safe and well in the current COVID-19 situation.

The current public health emergency has changed the nature of European (and global) society immensely. The effects span all aspects of our lives, affecting our relationships, work and day-to-day activities. The ongoing impact upon the economy and our institutions is, inevitably, very difficult to predict and will vary substantially across different nations. The COVID-19 virus also has very major implications for ageing research, as a consequence of its disproportionate impacts upon older people. Addressing the personal and social impacts of COVID-19 upon older people, as well as their intergenerational implications, will be a huge social scientific task. The ongoing activities of this Research Network will help to facilitate how researchers across the social sciences address these challenges. For example, the Board will be producing an additional newsletter, focused on the COVID-19 crisis, within the next couple of months. We will be signposting to research and initiatives across Europe that are related to COVID-19. Please contact us if you would like to provide information on your current projects, for inclusion in this newsletter.

message from the coordinator

*Our **midterm conference in Jyväskylä, Finland has been postponed** because of this situation. This is a great disappointment, as a very large number of abstract submissions have been received, but there is no possibility we can proceed in August. The change of arrangements provides us with some chance of delivering the event: we hope that it will be able to take place in January 2021. Thank you very much to the conference organisers for facilitating such a smooth change of arrangements. Please see the next page of the newsletter for the new dates, and you can also refer to the conference website: <https://www.jyu.fi/en/congress/ageing-europe>.*

As ever, we are very grateful to our contributors to the newsletter. In this issue Esther Ramsay-Jones from the Open University, UK provides insights into her book, 'Holding Time'. This text focuses on the experience of people with dementia and staff in residential and nursing care home contexts. Eddy Bruno from Charles University in Prague offers details on his PhD addressing age criteria in relation to immigrants' eligibility for social benefits in Austria, Finland and Czech Republic. In addition, we present an overview of a research project 'Mobile Ageing: transnational pendular migration and care-networks of retirees between Turkey and Germany', conducted at the Goethe University in Frankfurt.

Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries about our Network activities.

With best wishes

Edward Tolhurst

Staffordshire University, UK

e.tolhurst@staffs.ac.uk

Conference information

ESA RN01 Midterm Conference

Jyväskylä, Finland, **POSTPONED** to 20 – 22 January 2021



The European Sociological Association's Research Network on Ageing in Europe (RN01) Midterm Conference will take place in Jyväskylä, Finland.

Due to the coronavirus crisis, the organizers have made the decision to postpone the conference to: 20th to 22nd January 2021.

The conference program, including the keynote speakers, will stay as close to the original plans as possible.

The event will be organized jointly by RN01 and the Centre of Excellence in Research on Ageing and Care (AgeCare).

We look forward to meeting you in Jyväskylä!

Jenni Spännäri, Outi Jolanki and the Conference Team

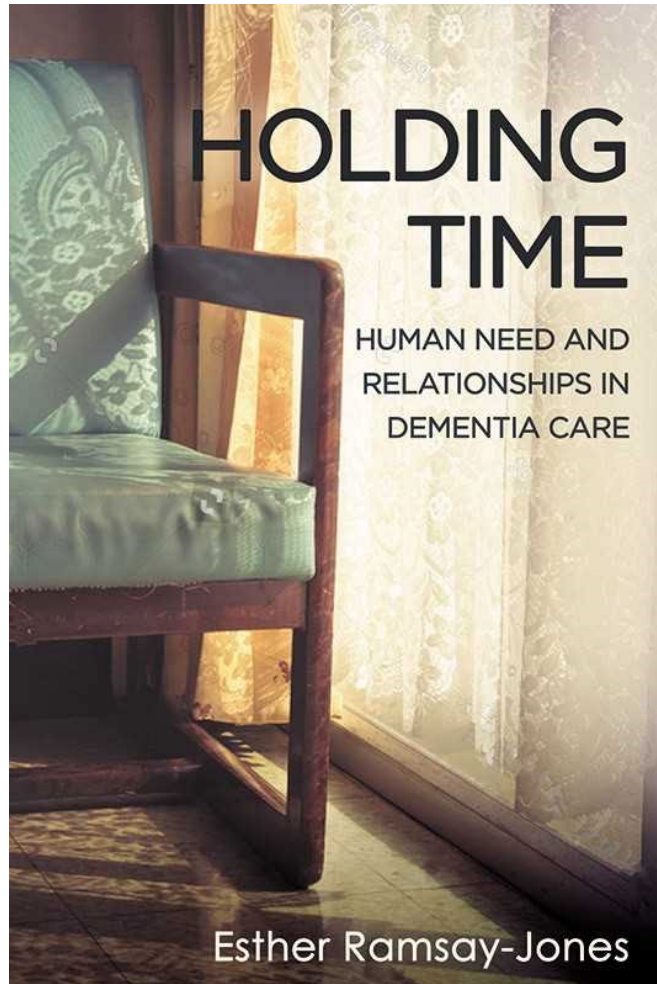
Contact: jenni.spannari@helsinki.fi
outi.jolanki@tuni.fi / outi.jolanki@jyu.fi



Book - Author's Insights

In this regular newsletter feature, we ask authors to provide a summary of their own book.

This month we are delighted to include an overview from **Esther Ramsay-Jones** from Open University. She offers valuable insights into her recently published book.



Holding Time: Human Need and Relationships in Dementia Care

*By: Esther Ramsay-Jones,
Psychotherapist in palliative Care, Open University*



Owing to the rapid spread of the coronavirus, and its devastating impact on populations of older adults, it is a difficult, yet thought-provoking, time to be writing about my book, *Holding Time*, which focuses on the experience of people with dementia and the staff who care for and support them in the residential and nursing care home context. Already, some care homes often find themselves split off from our collective consciousness and from the wider community – in the policy domain, the voices of care workers and those of people with moderate to advanced stage dementia, receiving care in such

settings, are barely heard, arguably marginalised and unincorporated into the narrative of living well. With the current pandemic, the older people living with dementia and those social care workers that offer regular personal care, activities provision and human encounter, are experiencing further isolation and less contact. Of course, this is a protective measure and an important one, though it is hard to avoid thinking about the layers upon layers of grief and dispossession that people are facing. We also now know that the deaths of older people in care homes had not been included in the official count until recently, symbolic perhaps of a final and thoughtless dispossession in death.

Holding Time is a book that tries to step into the daily life of the care home, in an attempt to acknowledge how complex this collective terrain can be both to live and to work in, but it is also about the enduring human capacity to relate and to contain psychically men and women whose minds are in a state of fragmentation. Back in 2016, I attended an ESA Research Network workshop as a PhD student, part way through my field work, when I was conducting psychoanalytically informed organisational observations and semi-structured interviews with staff and residents in two very different care homes. At the time, I was caught up in exploring national policy and was interrogating some of the notions that peppered the pages of

the Living Well with Dementia: A National Dementia Strategy (2009): while this is a laudable document, the nuance of the care home experience was minimally captured; seemingly hard to give thought to what it might mean to live unwell, with increased and frightening dependency, and in terms of the sometimes bewildering emotional 'mess' that takes place within human dynamics.

While Holding Time is embedded in psychosocial theory, and some chapters have a thematic focus (of Time, Mothers, Death) much of the book is written as narrative ethnography, taking the reader right into the care home milieu through the eyes of Dorothy and Daphne, two residents, who had differing experiences as recipients of care. We also hear about the ways that austerity, new managerialism and procedural approaches have affected the lives of care workers and the practice of care. The book, too, has been endorsed by some academic practitioners whom I have, over the years, been very much inspired by: for instance, Margaret Rustin, pioneer of psychoanalytic observation and author of Reading Klein and New Discoveries in Child Psychotherapy, among others, writes: 'This book will surprise, delight, pain and disturb for its vivid depiction of the world of people with different degrees and forms of dementia and their carers' struggles to understand and provide sensitive care.'

What I had hoped to convey was the real lived experience of this relatively unknown and unfamiliar world, and yet this is also a story about the importance of relationships, about the conscious and unconscious micro-interactions – some playful, some tender, some ambivalent - that take place between carer and cared-for that might at times alleviate (or worsen) the distress of someone living with dementia. It is also about our widespread societal fear of death, decline and dependency, and about the way – in individualistic, neoliberal climes – we might, as Lynne Segal (2013) writes, disavow the mutual dependence needed to support and sustain the human condition. Perhaps, who knows, this shocking virus, which has highlighted the chasmic differences in our social order, will bring some of that much-needed humanity and compassion to the fore...

Esther Ramsay-Jones (2019) *Holding Time: Human Need and Relationships in Dementia Care*, London: Free Association Books



Email: eddy@hiba.at

Twitter: [@eddyhiba](https://twitter.com/eddyhiba)

Esien Eddy Bruno

Charles University in Prague – Czech Republic

Esien Eddy Bruno is a scholar at the Department of Public and Social Policy, Faculty of Social Sciences, Charles University in Prague – Czech Republic. He is researching on welfare to workfare and activation policy measures in the field of public and social policy administration and policy analysis, particularly on the role of the enabling state, market, and the third sector to enable employment-related transition from welfare to all types of work in different countries.

The Enabling State and Targeting Benefits: Age criteria in Social Benefits Eligibility for Old Third- country Nationals

Over the past century, there has been a major decline in fertility and an increase life expectancy over several OECD countries that results to ageing population and a rapid increase in dependency ration (United Nation, 1998). There is now a conderable body of research which suggest the modernizing of social welfare protection regimes with an enabling state market-oriented approach that emphasizes targeting benefits

that allocate benefits to the most needy on the basis of income test. Yet income test often lead to withdrawal of benefits as income rises (Neil, 2004; Esien, 2019; 2020). Although targeting benefits reduce leakages, there is still little studies comparing CEE, Western European and Nordic countries explaining the criteria of people eligible for social benefits. Studies of age criteria in targeting social benefits under enabling state and its

implication to old third-country nationals heterogeneous subgroups' are rare and requires clarification. This study will deserve careful analysis of the enabling state and its targeting benefits model to understand the implication of age criteria for allocating social benefits eligibility

This study analyses the implication of age criteria in the realm of targeting benefits under enabling state to understand old third-country immigrants' eligibility for social benefits in Austria, Finland and Czech Republic. This study also offers an insightful knowledge to policymakers, practitioners and researchers that consider the distinctiveness of this heterogeneous group's sub-category in policy formation, making, and implementation. Old "third-country immigrants" in this study are non-EU nationals within the meaning of Art 20(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) (EUR-Lex, 2012; European Union, 2008) who voluntarily and legally move to one of the European Union Member states with visa and residence permits. In particular, they are ageing working population who face several barriers to enter or remain in work and go to retirement that need help. The main research question of this study is: What is the implication of age criteria in the realm of targeting benefits under enabling state for old Third-country immigrants' social benefits eligibility in Austria, Finland and Czech Republic and what are the consequences to

elderly immigrants?. Drawing on documents, reports, and previous studies, this study takes stock of Austria, Finland and Czech Republic implication of age criteria in the realm of targeting benefits under enabling state to shed light on this seemingly complex phenomenon. The research data analysis methods include the techniques of document and content analysis. This paper begins with section two discussing the methods. Followed by the (anticipated) impact/contribution. Finally, this paper ends with a conclusion

Based on a constructivist and interpretive philosophical position, about how the complexities of sociocultural world are experienced, interpreted, and understood in a particular context and time. The researcher of this study used a qualitative cross-country case-oriented research approach with purposive sample (Yin, 2003) and the Most Different System Design of few cases. This methodology has a number of advantages such as to offer a multidimensional in-depth research. Limitations to the study design include a "whole-nation bias" (Lijphart, 1971) that cannot be generalized to explain other countries leading to low external validity. Nevertheless, it may be generalized to theory in the way scholars theory-generates findings from one case study to the other. Data were gathered from documents and scholarly texts. The initial sample included official "Employment Acts" and

“Social Security Acts” to generate diversity of documents. The criteria for selecting the source include its less subject to error. The themes were derived from the enabling state’s targeting model-led deductive categories to analysis and answer the research questions

The findings indicate raising age of retirement, increasing participation, and gender disparities as a major influence in the regulative governance. An important finding to emerge in this study is the savings on pension achieved through raising the age of retirement (Auer and Fortuny, 2000; Neil, 2004) in Austria, Finland, and Czech Republic with restrictive targeting of social benefits has influence lack of transparency and solidarity in the design of eligibility criteria. These eventualities are additional cost to emerge as public expenses in other programs such as healthcare and social assistance. Despite similarities in raising the age of retirement, there are dissimilarities from the countries’ institutional context to administrative control on the allocation of social benefits. This study confirms the results of previous studies in which scholars recognized targeting benefits through age as a reform adjustment for the increase in life expectancy that affects beneficiaries differently (Auer and Fortuny, 2000; Neil, 2004). These differences suggest government saving in pension that may heavily affect the proportional return on social

security to worker in low-income and minority groups (Neil, 2004; Auer and Fortuny, 2000). This indicates lack of transparency in the design of eligibility that may impair people eligible for social benefit, when looking at issues such as age criteria for old third-country immigrants and disadvantaged groups in targeting social benefits setting.

The study appears to support the argument for a change in targeting social benefit regulative governance in social benefit allocation for older people. Further research should concentrate on old third-country immigrants’ personal experience in the realm of targeting social benefits

In short, targeting benefits indicates government regulatory new public management governance to sustain public finance that negotiate old third-country immigrants eligibility for social benefits in Austria, Finland and Czech Republic. If lack of transparency and solidarity persist in the allocation of social benefit, problem of discontinuity and bubble effects may prevail not only to disfavor minorities groups subjective wellbeing, but increase public expenses to other areas not align with the initial aim of sustainable public finance, and penalize active ageing in times of increasing COVID-19 challenges.

Acknowledgement:

The work on this study has been supported by the Charles University Specific Academic Research Projects Competition (project No. 260462). In addition, I dedicate this work to my beloved mother Madam Tchakounteh Marie who passed away this March 2020.

References

- Auer, P., & Fortuny, M. (2002). *Ageing of the Labour Force in OECD Countries: Economic and Social Consequences*. Geneva: Employment Sector International Labour Office .
- Esien, E. B. (2019). Activation and Unemployed Third-country Nationals: The Implication of Work-related Incentives to promote work in Austria, Finland and Czech Republic. In V. Nalepova (Ed.), *Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY: Economic and Social Challenges for Euroepan Economy* (pp. 167-180). Opava: Haviroy: Vysoka skola PRIGO. <http://www.narodacek.cz/conference-proceedings-2019/>
- Esien, E. B. (2019). Principal-Agent Relation and Contracting-out for Employment Case Management to Enable Third-country Nationals' Transition to Work. *The NISPAcee Journal of Public Administration and Policy, Volume XII(2)*, pp. 9-28 <https://doi.org/10.2478/nispa-2019-0012>
- Esien, E. B. (2020). Open Information, Contract Management, Transparency and Ethical Standard: In Local Government Units Contracting-out Case Management Service Delivery. In M. De Vries, J. Memec, & V. Junjan, *The Choice-Architecture behind Policy-Designs: From Policy Design to Policy Practice in the European Integration Context* (pp. 267-281). Bratislava: NISPACee.
- EUR-Lex. (2012). *Consolidated version of The Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union*. Official Journal C 326/01.
- European, U. (2008). *Employment in Europe. The Labour market situation and impact of recent third country migrants*. Brussel: European Union.
- Lijphart, A. (1971). Comparative politics and comparative method. *American political science review*, 65(3), pp. 682-693.
- Neil, G. (2004). *Transformation of the Welfare State: The Silent Surrender of Public Responsibility*. New York: Oxford University Press.
- United, N. (1998). *World Population Revision*. United Nation Population Division; Department of Economic and Social Affairs.
- Yin, R. K. (2003). *Case study research: Design and Methods* (3rd ed.). Thousand Oak (CA): SAGE.

Project Overview

“Mobile Ageing: transnational pendular migration and care-networks of retirees between Turkey and Germany”

The three-year research project has investigated the connections between the border-crossing mobile ageing practices of retirees and their social networks in the context of care needs and services between Turkey and Germany. A growing number of elderly people from Germany – with and without prior Turkish migration background – temporarily settle in tourist areas of Turkey as mobile retirement locations. Starting from the Turkish coastal city of Alanya, two sub-studies focused on the mobility practices and care networks of retirees from Germany, both with and without prior migration backgrounds from Turkey. The project has aimed to understand comparatively for both groups the conditions under which border-crossing lifestyles can be maintained, to identify causes and motivations, and to understand how forms of care and support circulate in transnational networks.

FUNDING BODY:

German Research Council (DFG)

RESEARCH TEAM:

Kira Kosnick, Çağrı Kahveci, and Elifcan Karacan
Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany

For correspondence:

Kira Kosnick, kosnick@europa-uni.de

While the cross-border mobility of retirees between Northern European countries and the Mediterranean has mostly been addressed in separate bodies of literature – international retirement migration (IRM) on the one hand, and return or pendular migration of former labour migrants on the other – our project followed the pioneering work of Anita Böcker, Canan Balkır and others who bridged this divide in their empirical investigations of retirement migration to Turkey.

A mixed-methods approach was employed to investigate the mobility patterns, lifeworlds and care networks of both groups of retirees, combining a questionnaire with interviews and participant observation in the touristic hotspot of Alanya, a coastal city known for its large numbers of German tourists and elderly residents from Germany. In the second phase of research, we conducted interviews with family members of retirees, mostly their children, in Germany but also in Turkey. In addition, we analyzed statistical data on tourism and foreign residence patterns in Turkey, as well as legal regulations and national policies in both countries pertaining to the residence of foreigners, to health insurance, pensions and real estate acquisitions.

While we found easy access to the networks of German retirees in Alanya who had no prior connection to Turkey apart from

holiday visits, the German-Turkish retirees who had spent their working lives as labour migrants in Germany were much harder to find and obtain responses from. While the former group saw themselves as a community and engaged in socializing primarily with other German retirees, German-Turkish retirees had not only no interest in socializing with German or other German-Turkish individuals, they were often eager to conceal their labour migrant histories from locals – a fact that has to do with the rather negative image still attached to Germany-based labour migrants, and a fear of being taken advantage of. We use the term German-Turkish in the project context to describe people born in Turkey with labour migration histories in Germany, regardless of their formal citizenship status and ethnic identifications, which were both quite diverse. In conjunction with the difficult political climate in Turkey – fieldwork had been postponed for one year due to the coup-d'état attempt of 2016 – German-Turkish retirees were more difficult to identify and often reluctant to participate in our research, forcing us to widen the geographical scope for this group to include the larger touristic destination and city of Antalya and the coastline between the two cities. We conducted a total of 29 interviews with 33 German-Turkish pensioners aged 50 to 80, four of them with married couples. German retirees in Alanya, on the other hand, were easy to find due to

their participation in German community activities as for example organized by the ecumenical Christian church, their gathering in German-run cafés, bars and restaurants, and their online social networks. We carried out 25 interviews with a total of 34 retirees aged from 50 to 89. Different from the German-Turkish retirees, German retirees were also mostly willing to fill out our questionnaire in order to collect basic information related to biographical data such as employment histories, income, housing situation and the like. As few of them were able to speak Turkish beyond a few key terms, German retirees socialized primarily within their own group, but also relied on select Turkish locals, usually with ties to the tourist or real estate industry, who often doubled as friends and commercial service providers. The city of Alanya is also reaching out to its foreign residents by providing access to municipal leaders via its multicultural 'foreigners committee', the only one of its kind in Turkey, organizing regular meetings between city officials and representatives of different foreign resident groups in the city.

As this short project description does not allow to present more than a cursory overview of our research, the remaining text will focus on the cross-border mobility patterns of both groups of retirees, and on what we have termed the 'tactical mobility' that both have developed. We argue that that mobile ageing practices not only exhibit similarities across the two groups, but

are also significantly shaped by conditions over which both exercise very limited or no control: economic inequalities, legal insecurities and health imponderabilities were impacting the lives of almost all of the retirees we encountered. To understand retirees' responses, we draw on Michel de Certeau's distinction between strategies and tactics, and suggest to name the practices and considerations that allow for their mobile ageing between Turkey and Germany as forms of tactical mobility. We define tactical mobility as an agency that according to de Certeau is "an art of the weak", in opposition to the place-bound and space-structuring strategies employed by state actors but also market forces.

Most respondents in both groups related their cross-border mobility to economic inequalities. Given the generally lower costs of living in Turkey and the ongoing weakness of the Turkish Lira in relation to the Euro, the generally low retirement incomes from Germany could be made to stretch further and afford a better quality of life in Turkey. That said, respondents in the German Turkish group had markedly lower pension incomes than in the German group, as far as we could ascertain. Both groups also live with insecurities that have to do with constantly changing legal regulations, changing policies and political conflict. These pertain to issues regarding their residence status, their insurance status, the legal regulations

pertaining to their income or taxes, and the volatile political climate not just within but also between the two nation-states. Thus, not falling foul of the residence regulations for foreign citizens was a central concern motivating cross-border mobility in both groups. Lastly, imponderabilities related to retirees' health status and healthcare needs played an important role, with retirees trying to maximize the benefits of healthcare landscapes in both countries. A more nuanced discussion and presentation of our findings related to the concept of tactical mobility can be found in our recently published open-access article in the Journal for Ethnic and Migration Research ([go to www](#)).



Kira Kosnick, Çağrı Kahveci, and Elifcan Karacan
Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany

Contact:

kosnick@europa-uni.de



Network

We are an association of researchers who are interested in ageing. We aim to facilitate contacts and collaboration among these researchers, and to provide them with up-to-date information. To reach these goals, we organize conferences and workshops, produce a newsletter, and maintain an email list. Because we are part of the European Sociological Association (ESA), many of our members work in sociology. However, we also have members who work in, for example, social policy or psychology.

Visit our homepage, where you can find information on all of our activities. If you have any questions or you want to contribute to the Newsletter, do not hesitate to **CONTACT US!**

<http://www.ageing-in-europe.net/contact.html>





Dr Edward Tolhurst

Ed is a Lecturer in Health Research at Staffordshire University, UK. He is a qualitative researcher in the field of ageing, dementia and care. Ed's first involvement with the Network was as a participant at a PhD workshop in Porto in July 2012. He then joined the Board in early 2014. Ed convened the Network's 5th PhD workshop at the University of Chester, UK. He is also co-editor of our newsletter. Ed is the Coordinator of the Network for the period 2019 to 2021.



Dr Lucie Galčanová Batista

Lucie works as a Researcher at the Office for Population Studies at Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic. In her research and teaching, she focuses on cultural, and environmental gerontology, and on intersections of spatial, cultural and environmental sociology. She joined the Research Network and the Board in 2015 at the ESA conference in Prague. She served as organising secretary of the 4th Midterm Conference of the Network that took place in 2018 in Brno, CZ. Lucie is the Co-Coordinator of the Network for the period from 2019 to 2021.



Dr Oana Ciobanu

Oana is an assistant professor in the Institute of Demography and Socioeconomics and leader of the research group 'Diversities in Ageing Societies' at the Centre for the Interdisciplinary Study of Gerontology and Vulnerability, at the University of Geneva, Switzerland. She focuses mainly on the population of older migrants. Using qualitative and mixed-methods, Oana studies aspects like transnational migration, social networks, access and use of welfare services and vulnerability. Oana has become a member of the Research Network and of the Board in 2019. Since then she is co-editor of the newsletter.



Dr Outi Jolanki

Outi works at the Tampere University, Faculty of Social Sciences and at the University of Jyväskylä, Department of Social Sciences and Philosophy, Finland. She is one of the leaders of the multidisciplinary Centre of Excellence in Research on Ageing and Care (CoE AgeCare) which has research groups from the University of Jyväskylä, Tampere University and University of Helsinki. Her research and teaching focus mainly on qualitative research, and on the linkages between social wellbeing, housing and living environment, new models of senior housing, informal care, and care and housing policies. She joined the Board 2019.



Dr Amílcar Moreira

Amílcar is a Portuguese researcher at the Institute of Social Sciences, University of Lisbon, where is the Principal Investigator of the DYNAPOR - a dynamic microsimulation model of the Portuguese pension system. His research interests include: ageing, pensions, income distribution and comparative social policy. Currently, he is part of MIGAPE (Mind the Gap in Pensions), a research consortium looking at the mechanisms that explain the Gender Pension Gap in Europe. Previously he has been involved in a number of ageing-related cross-national collaborations such as MOPACT (Mobilising the Potential of Active Ageing in Europe), or the European Science Foundation's 'Forward Look' on Ageing, Health and Pensions.



Dr Jenni Spännäri

Jenni is a Finnish researcher in sociology of religion and social gerontology, in the Universities of Helsinki and Eastern Finland. Her research interests include: religion, spirituality and values, wisdom and compassion, innovativity and working life, retirement migration and life course perspectives. Recent projects include the international Transmission of religion across generations -project funded by the John Templeton foundation, and the CoPassion (The Revolutionary power of compassion) -project funded by the Finnish funding agency for Technology and Innovation. Jenni is a part of the local organizing committee of the forthcoming RN01 Midterm conference She joined the board in 2011.



Dr Justyna Stypińska

Justyna works at the Free University of Berlin, Institute of East European Studies, Department of Sociology, Germany. She received her PhD from the Jagiellonian University in Krakow for a dissertation on age discrimination in the labour market. She is a leader of an international project MOMENT- Making of Mature Entrepreneurship in Germany and Poland. Her research focus on ageing on the labour markets, age and gender inequalities in the life course perspective, as well as the relation between ageing, social innovation and social sustainability. She joined the Board in 2015.



Dr Konrad Turek

Konrad works at the University of Amsterdam and the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI-KNAW). His research is focused on changing and ageing labour markets, development of inequalities across the lifecourses, work at older ages and retirement process. He has also published on topics related to ageing policies, ageism and age stereotypes, the role of employers, age management and lifelong learning. He joined the Board in 2019, and since then he is a co-editor of our newsletter.



Dr Anna Urbaniak

Anna is a social sciences researcher with expertise in spatial aspects of ageing, age-friendly cities and communities, life-course transitions, the re/production of social inequalities across the life course. She works as a researcher at the University of Vienna, Austria. Her current work explores the gendered nature of the pathway from early life socio-economic conditions, micro-, meso- and macro-influences to exclusion from social relations in later life, and the consequences for health and wellbeing in later life. She joined the Research Network and the Board in 2016 and since 2019 she is PhD student liaison.