LONGLIVES
Policies for longer working lives: understanding interactions with health and care responsibilities

IMPACT ON CIVIL SOCIETY... AREA:

In general, LONGLIVES provides new insights into the complex relationship of health, long-term care provision, work and retirement.

More precisely, one central aspect is to provide the scientific community with new evidence on the causal relation between health and retirement. Existing literature on this topic is inconclusive.

New results on the health effects of retirement not only contribute to a scientific debate, but are also important for policymakers and the public debate about prolonging work lives. Our findings will feed into the discussion about pros and cons of retirement reforms.

Another important strand of the project aims at providing the society with new insights into the development of work and care patterns in the UK, Germany, France, and Denmark under status quo and alternative scenarios in the future. Such predictions will support and inform societal debates about the expected impact of potential policy reforms or demographic changes.

The particular strengths of our international team – that are key for reaching these research goals are the ability to think about national policies with an internationally comparative view and each country-team’s expertise in methodology and national policy knowledge.

SUMMARY

LONGLIVES focuses on two key factors related to longer working lives: their relationship with health and caring responsibilities.

The project sheds new light on how longer working lives might affect health and well-being of the older population, and how caring responsibilities may influence individuals’ work lives.

A core focus of the project is understanding differences in these effects across the population and the resulting impact on inequality. The project consists of four work packages:

• Work Package 1: Inequalities and policies at older ages: a comparative approach
• Work Package 2: Longer working lives and the effects on health
• Work Package 3: Caring responsibilities and longer working lives
• Work Package 4: The outlook for labor supply, health and care giving and the possible effects of alternative policies

CONSORTIUM

The consortium consists of five partner institutions from four EU countries:

• German Institute for Economic Research (DIW Berlin), Germany: Peter Haan (coordinator of project)
• Danish National Centre for Social Research (SFI), Denmark: Paul Bingley
• Danish Rational Economic Agents Model (DREAM), Denmark
• Paris School of Economics - IPP, France: Didier Blanchet
• Institute for Fiscal Studies (IFS), United Kingdom: Carl Emmerson