



# **GENDEREWL BULLETIN**

OCTOBER 2018

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## Update on Dissemination Activities



**Siniša Zrinščak**  
**University of Zagreb, Croatia**  
**Chair, Dissemination Committee**

In the period January 2018 – September 2018 dissemination activities have been focused mainly on preparation of the final COST conference, Galway, Ireland, 22-23 November 2018.

The Conference-web site and the CfP were launched in March and the CfP was distributed through various mailing lists. The Dissemination Committee met in Brussels, 11-12 April. The Committee decided the final structure of the conference, and plenary speakers. Each paper proposal received was evaluated by two members of the Dissemination Committee. The current draft programme consists of 41 papers in 7 sessions and four key-note speakers. The programme will be finalized by the end of October, 2018. There will be other dissemination activities including a policy round-table on

Extended Working Life policy in Ireland and a cross COST Action session around the conference which are in preparation / being finalized.

Other dissemination activities include publication preparation. Springer accepted a book proposal entitled “Extended Working Life Policies – International Gender and Health Perspectives. The expected publication date is September 30<sup>th</sup> 2019. Two other book proposals are under preparation, the one on gender and well-being, and the other one on older workers and exclusion processes on labour market.

I thank all members of the Dissemination Committee for their work but a particular thanks goes to Áine Ní Léime and Christine De Lary for their enormous work on the conference preparation.

# COST IS1409 Training School Committee Report 2018



**Nicky LeFeuvre, University of Lausanne, Switzerland  
Training School Coordinator**

This was a particularly busy spring for the Training School Committee, with the organization of two training schools in the space of just three months, in order to avoid overlap with COST Stakeholder event, planned for March 2019 in Brussels.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Training School, entitled *Extended Working Lives: Issues & Methods for Policy Evaluation*, took place at the Mendel University of Brno, Czech Republic, on March 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> 2018. Conveniently situated just a couple of hours train journey from Prague and Vienna, Brno is a lively university town. We were hosted by the Faculty of Business and Economics (<http://www.pef.mendelu.cz/en/>), located in an award-winning, modern building built on the campus of what was once the Agricultural School of Moravia. Organised in collaboration with WG2 co-leaders **Martina Rasticova** and **Jonas Radl**, the training school covered a wide-range of policy evaluation issues, presented by some of the leading experts in the field, including:

**Nata Duvvury**, Senior Lecturer, School of Political Science & Sociology, and Director of the International Gender studies Centre, NUI Galway, Ireland.

<http://www.nuigalway.ie/our-research/people/political-science-and-sociology/nataduvvury/>

**Matt Flynn**, Professor at the School of Business and Management Studies, Hull University, UK and previously Director of the Institute for Ageing at Newcastle University.

<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/ageing/events/theeconomicandsocialimpactofageing/mattflynn/>

**Angela O'Hagan**, Lecturer in Social and Public Policy, Glasgow Caledonian University, UK

<http://www.gcu.ac.uk/gsbs/staff/angelaohagan/>

**Jan Stuhler**, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Carlos III University Madrid  
Spain

<http://www.eco.uc3m.es/personal/jstuhler/index.html>

**Lucie Vidovicova**, Senior researcher Faculty of Social Studies Masaryk University Czech Rep

<https://www.muni.cz/en/people/11638-lucie-vidovi%C4%87ova>

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Training School was hugely popular, with 21 participants (including 2 from Brno and a colleague from Tirana University in Albania) taking part. There were two highlights to this event. The first was an exceptional evening, including a guided tour and cocktail reception at the spectacular UNESCO World Heritage site of the Vila Tugendhat, a stunning Art Deco villa,

located close to the Mendel University Campus. (<http://www.tugendhat.eu>). The second was a session organized by colleagues from the Faculty of Medicine, dedicated to experimenting a “gerontology suit”, designed to enable everyone to experience the physical processes of ageing in order to better understand the capabilities and limitations of older people. Special thanks to **Martina Rastikova** and her team (notably **Monika Bediova**, **Jiri Cerny** and **Pavel Ziaran**) for making this event so successful and enjoyable.

In some meteorological contrast to Brno, the 4<sup>th</sup> Training School, entitled ***Gender implications of extending working life***, took place on June 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> 2018 at the Venice International University in Italy. Based on the delightful San Servolo island, a 15 minute boat ride away from St Mark’s Square, this event was organized back-to-back with the **VIU Summer School *Gender Issues in an Ageing Society***, under the leadership of Professor **Agar Brugiavini**, Professor of Economics at the Ca’Foscari University of Venice. Planned in collaboration with WG4 co-leaders, **Tindara Addabbo** and **Mischa Gstrein**, we were once again able to provide a fantastic panel of expert trainers, who addressed substantive and methodological issues related to interdisciplinary and longitudinal studies of ageing. These included:

**Mauricio Avendano**, Professor of Public Policy in Global Health and Social Medicine at King's College London and Adjunct Associate Professor at the Harvard School of Public Health: <https://www.kcl.ac.uk/sspp/departments/sshm/people/academic/MauricioAvendano.aspx>

**Fiona Carmichael**, Professor of Labour Economics at the University of Birmingham: <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/staff/profiles/business/carmichael-fiona.aspx>

**Jürgen Maurer**, Professor of Health Economics at the Business & Management Faculty of the University of Lausanne: [http://hec.unil.ch/people/jmaurer?dyn\\_lang=fr](http://hec.unil.ch/people/jmaurer?dyn_lang=fr)

**Morten Wahrendorf**, Professor at the Institute of Medical Sociology, Heinrich Heine University, Düsseldorf: <http://www.uniklinik-duesseldorf.de/unternehmen/institute/institut-fuer-medizinische-soziologie/cv/wahrendorf/>

Despite limitations to the accommodation capacity of the VIU location, a total of twelve COST trainees were able to attend the event, in addition to the VIU Summer School participants, making for a large and dynamic audience from across the globe. Their feedback was extremely positive, notably due to the availability of computer facilities, enabling them to experiment “hands on” the data analysis methods used by the trainers.

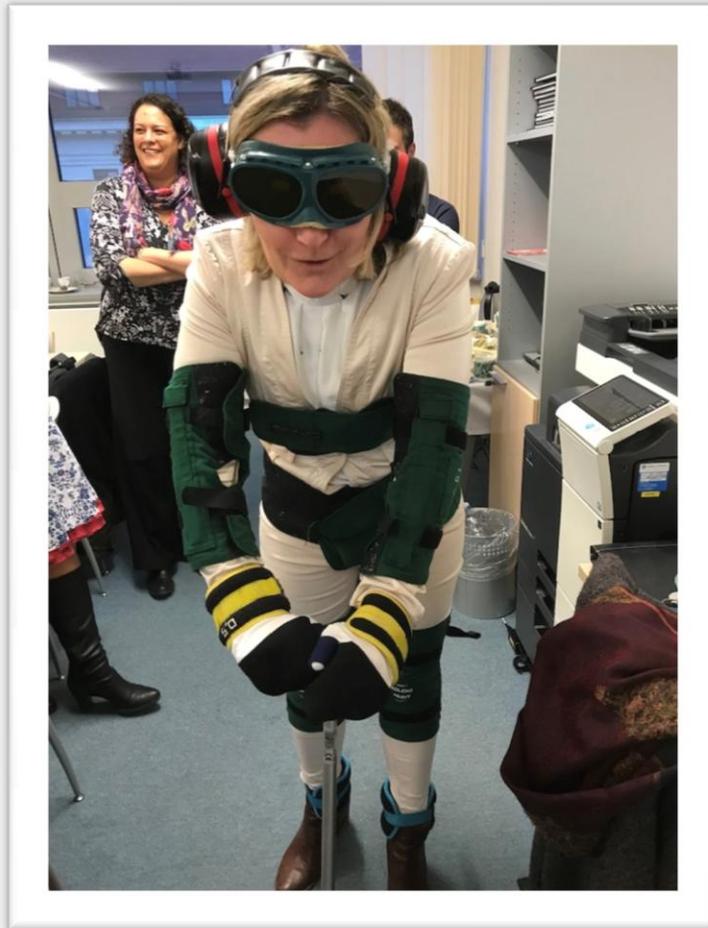
Particular thanks to **Helene Duci** of the VIU for her efficient handling of the complex logistics for this fourth and final COST Action training school, which was a huge success.



**Photo:** A selection of the 4<sup>th</sup> COST Training School and ViU Summer School participants and trainers on San Servola island, Venice, June 9<sup>th</sup> 2018 (@helenduci).



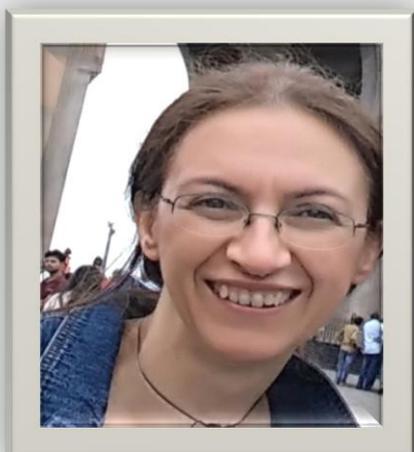
**Photo:** A selection of the 3<sup>rd</sup> COST Training School participants in the garden of the UNESCO heritage site Vila Tugendhat in Brno, Czech Republic.



*Photo: Training School host Prof. Martina Rasticova in the “gerontology suit” designed by colleagues from the Medical Faculty in Brno. Post-doc Laura Airey in the background.*

## **My experience of the Training School “Gender issues in an Ageing Society” in Venice, 2018**

**Petroula Mavrikou**



From June 7-9, 2018 I participated in the 4th Training School “Gender issues in an Ageing Society”, which was co-organised by the Venice International University and the COST Action IS1409 “Gender and health impacts of policies extending working life in Western countries”. The Training School took place on the island of San Servolo in Italy and was funded by the European framework COST.

A group of seven academics offered me the opportunity to enhance my theoretical and empirical social science

knowledge on gender issues, and gender health impacts of policies aimed at extending the duration of working life. I had the opportunity to meet up with very experienced colleagues and stakeholders and I exchanged views on current and future research projects. In addition, the expertise of the researchers of this training school on indicators and comparative analysis on gender issues and working life at EU level, enhanced my understanding on the differences across the member states of the EU. This Training School contributed to exploring further the statistical possibilities of dealing with methodological challenges posed by the analysis of the gender and impacts of policies on extending working life and how to implement cross-national qualitative and quantitative research designs as well as on how to perform advanced statistical analysis on gender statistics.

The location and the time of the Training school, Venice in June, in addition to the social program with so many other researchers from across Europe, could only add value to the training school.

Nicky Le Feuvre and Tindara Addabbo were the two MC members on behalf of the COST Action who not only organised the Training School but also contributed academically and facilitated so many people to participate in this important event.

## **Trainer's experience of Venice Training School, 2018**

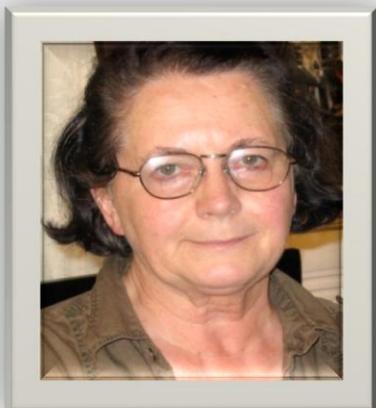


**Fiona Carmichael**

**Professor of Labour Economics at the University of Birmingham**

My experience of participating in the Training School in Venice was very positive. I taught two sessions: Using occupational history calendars to capture long and complex working lives: A mixed method, small sample approach; and Regression with categorical dependent variables using Stata. The first presented a mixed method approach which complemented other sessions that focused separately on research using quantitative and qualitative methods. The latter was taught as part of a series of hands on, data analysis sessions taught at the School. The students were very enthusiastic, keen to learn and asked interesting and stimulating questions, which is of course exactly what teachers want. The students also contributed their own research experiences which enhanced discussions. The teaching facilities and support were excellent. I also enjoyed and learned from the presentations of the other academic staff who participated. It was a very friendly and sociable event. The location was stunning and the accommodation was fine, if somewhat quirky. Overall, I thought the organisation and planning of the School was very good, there was a clear overall structure which meant that the sessions linked well together. The summing up session at the end was particularly useful in drawing the School to a close.

## Short Term Scientific Mission Update



**Professor Renata Siemienska,  
University of Warsaw, Poland**

**STSM Coordinator**

Short-term scientific missions (STSM) are exchange visits between researchers involved in a COST Action, allowing scientists to visit an institution or laboratory in another COST Member State.

The following applicants were successful in receiving approval to carry out an STSM in Spring 2018

1. Pavel Zarian (Brno University, Czech Rep) in University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy to work with Professor Tindara Addabbo University of Modena, Italy  
*Title: Analysis on seniors' retirement timing in a gender perspective in EU countries by using SHARE*
2. Aneta Krejcova (Mendel University, Brno, Czech Rep.) will visit with Professor Clary Krekula, Karlstad University, Sweden  
*Title: Gender perspective of reasons influencing early retirement.*
3. Noemia Lolo (University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal) will visit INRCA-IRCCS National Institute of Health Science on Ageing , Ancona, Italy  
*Title: Gender and health impacts of policies extending working life in western countries*
4. Ulrike Spangenberg (Umea University, Sweden) will work with Professor Emer Mulligan in National University of Ireland, Galway  
*Title: Gender and health impacts of policies extending working life in western countries*

# Experience of Short Term Scientific Mission at NUI Galway



**Jiri Cerny**  
**Mendel University, Brno, Czech Rep**

Léime and Nata Duvvury at NUI Galway. The primary objective of my visit was to improve and develop my competencies, knowledge and network.

My name is Jiri, and currently, I am a PhD student at Faculty of Business and Economics in Brno. During my master studies, I felt a strong need to engage in something practical, which led me to a start-up business. However, a few years later and following talks with my future supervisor, Martina Rasticova (leader of WG2, COST Action IS 1409), I discovered my need also to have a social impact, and it has brought me back to academics.

Both my previous and current studies attracted me by the cooperation with other professionals and mentors, who make knowledge transfer more efficient. That was why I, with the support of Martina, was seeking for an international network from the very beginning of my studies. The most significant turning point for me was participation at the Training School in Brno. Being a fresher, it accelerated my knowledge and helped focus the direction of research.

No surprise that my next steps lead to the application for a short Term Scientific Mission (STSM). It gave me an opportunity to discover new perspectives and approaches thanks to cooperation with experienced researchers like Áine Ní

My stay began with the preparation of country reports for public presentation as a result of activities of WG1 and WG2. They consisted of the analysis of policies on extended working life and policy developments during the last ten years in COST countries. I joined the Early Career Investigators meeting on Gender and health impacts of policies extending working life in western countries. Additionally, I had the opportunity to share the preliminary results of my research on the late employment concerning health status in the Czech population. The impact of STSM was not only in growing expertise, but at the personal level as well. This experience, on one hand, supported my curiosity. On the other, it has taught me, how to keep focused and clear about the objective. It empowered me in openness to discussion, constructive feedback and knowledge sharing. Socially, I enjoyed travelling in the countryside and meeting Irish people.

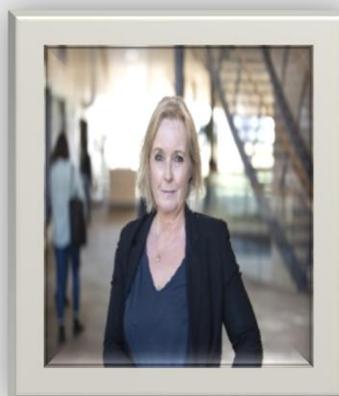
The diversity in multiculturalism, expertise and methodologies, is precisely the kind of essential fuel that drives me in my academic career further. I sincerely appreciate this support and highly recommend it to future participants.

## WORKING GROUP UPDATES

**Update from Working Group 1 (Existing Knowledge and Key Themes) and Working Group 2 (Analysis of Policies on Extended Working Life).**



**Jim Ogg**



**Clary Krekula**



**Martina Rasticova**



**Wendy Loretto**

Outlined below are just some of the many activities undertaken by members of WG1 and WG2 from January-October, 2018.

In January 2018, at the Larnaca MC meeting, it was decided to amalgamate WG1 and WG2 into one Working Group. Pavel Ziaran gave a presentation based on a working paper on late employment in the Czech Republic.

Martina Rasticova and colleagues from Mendel University in Brno, the Czech Republic, hosted a Training School entitled “Gender and health effects of extending working live in Europe” from 18-21 March 2018.



Training School at Brno, March, 2018.

#### Conference papers:

The following papers were presented at the conference, Enterprise and the Competitive Environment, Faculty of Business and Economics, Mendel University of Brno, Czech Republic (March 22-23, 2018)

Rašticová, M., Krekula, C. Extension of working lives: gender perspective of retirement timing in Sweden and the Czech Republic.

Mavrikiou, P., Pivoriene, J., Xhumari, M. The impact of pension systems on working life in Albania, Cyprus and Lithuania,

Žiaran, P., Loio, N. Understanding the reasons of working life extension for senior workers. Impact of physical and mental health in relation to other factors. Cross-national and gender differences.

#### Short Term Scientific Missions (STSM):

**April 20-28th:** Nathalie Burnay participated in a STSM in Karlstad; among other things Nathalie worked on the book proposal "Older workers and exclusion processes on the labour market: a life course perspective" (Burnay N., Krekula C., Ogg J., Vendramin P. Eds), to be sent to Life Course Research and Social Policies, Springer during Oct 2018.

**April 2018:** Jiri Cerny STSM at Galway University with Áine Ní Leime. Jiri formatted the country reports for the COST Action website and participated in the ECI forum meeting (see Jiri's report).

**April 2018:** visit in Galway, Ireland, working meeting of WG 2 Early Career Investigators forum meeting: Martina Rasticova, Monika Bediova, Jiri Cerny, Aneta Krejcova.

**September 2018:** Aneta Krejcova STSM at Karlsatd University with Professor Clary Krekula.

**September 2018:** Martina Rasticova, Monika Bediova visit and working meeting

in Karlstad University, preparing proposal  
H2020 Twinning (11. – 14.9.2018)

Several members of Working Groups 1 and 2 are preparing book chapters for the Springer book on Extended Working Life Policies due to be published in 2019 and/or have had abstracts accepted for the COST conference.

## Update for WG3 on National and International Data



Mischa Gstrein



Tindara Addabbo

### Below are some of the highlights of WG3 since January 2018

WG3 held a meeting on Jan 20<sup>th</sup> 2018 in Cyprus after the full COST meeting. We have two new members, Murat Mercan (from Turkey) and Roland Bildsteiner (from Austria). A major activity for WG3 was the very successful Training School called 'Gender implications of extending working life', held in Venice International University, Isola di San Servolo, 30133 Venezia – Italy, on the 7 – 9th June 2018 (see full report by Nicky Lefeuvre). Particular thanks to Tindara Addabbo for initiating and organising with VIU and to the VIU members for the fruitful interaction in the scientific and organization of the Summer School where COST trainees had the opportunity to interact with trainers and with trainees of the VIU Summer School dedicated to **Gender Issues in an Ageing Society**.

Mischa Gstrein has presented/will present papers on WG3 activities at the following events:

1. 'Gender And Health Impacts On Extended Working Life – Where To Find Relevant Indicators', at the Aging Workforce: Older Workers and Immigrants as New Pillars of Western Economies? Conference, Prague, March 1-2, 2018, Link zu [Konferenzprogramm](#) und [power-point-gstrein-engaging-prag-2018-final](#)

2. "Possible Indicators for Gender and Health Impacts on Extended Working Life - Where to look?" at *Work, Employment and Society Conference 2018*) on Putting Sociology to Work: Interdisciplinarity, intersectionality and imagination, Belfast/North Ireland, 12 - 14 September 2018. [https://www.britsoc.co.uk/media/24779/wes18\\_abstract\\_book.pdf](https://www.britsoc.co.uk/media/24779/wes18_abstract_book.pdf)  
<https://www.britsoc.co.uk/events/key-bsa-events/work-employment-society-conference-2018/> [https://www.britsoc.co.uk/media/24811/wes2018\\_final\\_prog.pdf](https://www.britsoc.co.uk/media/24811/wes2018_final_prog.pdf)

'Barriers and drivers of extended working life - a look at gender-relevant indicators and datasets', Keynote lecture at the summer school on Data analysis for economic and social research, Faculty of Business and Economics, Mendel University, Brno, Czech Republic, 18 – 21 of September, 2018. Link to event/program: <http://letniskola.pef.mendelu.cz/29718-program>

Several members of WG3 are working on country reports and chapters for the Springer book and other planned publications and/or will participate in the conference.

## **WG4 Policy tool-kits, innovative policies & good practice**

### **Update**



*Jonas Radl*



*Jeroen Spijker*



*Nata Duvvury*

Working Group 4 (Policies and Policy Tool-kits) met as part of the MC meeting in Cyprus in January 2018. A special meeting to discuss and develop policy briefs was held in Brussels, on 15-16 February, 2018. Jeroen Spijker participated in the dissemination meeting on the 11-12 April, 2018 on behalf of WG4.

One of the main activities of WG4 in this final year of the COST Action was to develop a series of policy briefs. Four policy briefs were produced on age management, health, social inclusion and the gender-pension gap (with a total of 12 WG4 members involved). A further four policy briefs are under preparation. In WG 4, two articles and one book chapter on Action topics were prepared. In addition to this, there is ongoing work preparing several book chapters for edited volumes coordinated by Action members. WG4 leaders were involved in selecting trainers and liaising with the Training School Coordinator in preparing for the WG4 spring Training School in Brno. Finally, several WG4 members will participate in the final conference.



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