Editorial

Dear users and friends,

We are very happy to integrate eight new countries into SHARE and proudly present Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania and Slovakia as new SHARE countries. In this edition of our newsletter, we would like to present to you three of our new country teams. Integrating all these countries will allow all SHARE users to investigate ageing societies in the entire European Union.

At the moment, we are preparing at full speed the next survey wave which will start in 2017. Wave 7 will also be the first wave of data collection with all new member countries. In this wave, we will repeat the SHARELIFE concept. That means, we will additionally ask all newly added respondents about their life history from childhood until present. Simultaneously, the SHARE team is preparing the first data release of Wave 6 data, which is planned for spring 2017.

Please enjoy reading our SHARE Newsletter No. 19.

Yours sincerely,

Axel Börsch-Supan

*Important note: Please do not forget to keep informing us about your SHARE based research and publications. Simply send an email to our team (info@share-project.org) and your SHARE publication will be included in the respective publication section of our website. Please be kindly reminded that including the SHARE acknowledgement in every article using SHARE data is essential for SHARE as well as for our funders. Information on the content of the acknowledgement and requested citations can be found here: www.share-project.org/data-access-documentation/research-data-center-data-access.html
Short note - Add-On for SHARE Release 5.0.0 available

Harmonised net income measures in SHARE Wave 1

SHARE is extending the current Release 5.0.0 by publishing an Add-On about harmonised net income measures for Wave 1. The data contains the gross-to-net conversion of individual and household income of SHARE’s Wave 1 respondents, thus facilitating the comparison with the other waves of SHARE where net amounts are used by default. The harmonised net income measures were kindly provided by an expert team of our colleagues at the Universities of Padua and Venice. Please find more information in the SHARE Working Paper 25-2016: Harmonized net income measures in SHARE Wave 1.

Extension of SHARE allows for EU-wide country-comparisons

Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Romania and Slovakia joined SHARE

Tackling the common challenges of ageing societies will be substantially improved by extending the coverage of SHARE. The European Commission paved the way to include eight new countries in the survey, because SHARE is an important source of evidence which helps to better cope with challenges in the health, employment and social sector. SHARE now covers 26 countries of the European Union as well as Switzerland and Israel. The first wave of data collection with all new members will start in 2017 (Wave 7).

For more information about the extension of SHARE, please read our >> press release.

Vytenis Andriukaitis, European Commissioner for Health & Food Safety emphasized:

“Europe is turning increasingly silver and it looks like this trend will continue in the decades to come. In order to tackle the challenges of ageing societies, it is important to learn from each other. Our aim is to strengthen country-specific and cross-country evidence to facilitate dialogue and policy action. The SHARE study makes an important contribution to this purpose.”

Also Ruth Paserman, Deputy Head of the Cabinet of Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility explained the benefits of the extension:

“It is a great success that many more countries now participate in SHARE. Researching the ageing societies in all EU member states is absolutely necessary for mutual learning. SHARE will help us deliver reforms aimed at extending working lives and making social protection systems sustainable in our ageing societies.”
Introducing three new country teams: Bulgaria, Finland and Latvia

SHARE Team Bulgaria

The Institute for the Study of Societies and Knowledge at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (ISSK-BAS) is the main national research centre in the sphere of social sciences in Bulgaria. The Institute carries out fundamental and applied research, consulting and expert activities as well as training of highly-qualified specialists. It benefits institutions such as the European Commission, the national government and especially the Ministry of Education, Youth and Science and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, municipalities and public agencies.

The Bulgarian SHARE team from the ISSK-BAS includes several members:

Dr. Ekaterina Markova (Country Team Leader) has been senior research fellow at the ISSK-BAS since 2004. Her research interests are related to Survey Research Methodology, Policy Impact Measurement and Evaluation, Sociology of Labour, Vulnerability and Demographic Change. Ekaterina is member of the intra-institutional expert group for the implementation of the national demographic strategy at the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy. She has long-term experience in national and international projects.

Dr. Gabriela Yordanova (Country Team Operator) has a master's degree (2007) and a PhD degree (2013), both in sociology. In her professional career, Gabriela combines applied survey researches (from 2006), university teaching (since 2009) and scientific research at ISSK-BAS. Currently, she is senior research associate at ISSK-BAS, specialised in Survey Methodology and Labour Sociology. Gabriela has long-term experience in survey and evaluation work for different ministries, municipalities and international projects.

Dr. Vassil Kirov (Expert), Associate Professor at the ISSK-BAS and Associate Researcher at the Centre Pierre Naville, University of Evry and at the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI). Vassil’s research interests are Sociology of Enterprise, Work and Organisations, Employment Relations, Demographic Change and Europeanization.

Dr. Eugenia Markova (Expert) is Senior Lecturer in Economics at the Brighton Business School, University of Brighton. She has an extensive research, consultancy and publication record on the economic and social aspects of labour migration. Her research has covered the UK, Greece, Bulgaria and Spain. Eugenia has worked for the London Metropolitan University, the London School of Economics and Political Science, the University of Sussex and the University of Athens in Greece and has done consulting for the Open Society Institute in Sofia, Bulgaria, the Development Centre of OECD in Paris and the European Council.

Diana Nenkova (administrative assistant) is an experienced sociologist, working at ISSK-BAS, highly qualified in project management, research and administrative organisation.
SHARE Team Finland

Finland is also among the new countries joining SHARE for Wave 7. The Finnish research team currently includes Anna Rotkirch (Research Director, Country Team Leader), Anneli Miettinnen (Researcher, Country Team Operator) and Mirkka Danielsbacka (Researcher), all at the Population Research Institute of Väestöliitto, the Finnish Family Federation.

This team has specialised in the study of family relations including fertility and childbearing, gender equality and the time use of families. In the project “Generational transmissions in Finland” (GENTRANS), they have explored intergenerational assistance and helping with panel survey data of the baby boomers and their adult children. This previous project was designed to be partly comparable with SHARE while Finland remained outside of SHARE.

The researchers are assisted by information specialist Tiina Helamaa and media consultant Barita Rosenström as well as the whole media team of Väestöliitto, the Finnish Family Federation.

SHARE Team Latvia

SHARE Latvia is coordinated by Rīga Stradins University (RSU). Established in 1950, the RSU is a public university in the Republic of Latvia supervised by the Latvian Ministry of Health. Latvia’s most eminent practitioners of medicine working in various spheres are educated at RSU. Nowadays, RSU educates specialists in the field of medicine and pharmacy and provides study programs in social sciences, natural sciences and public health. The educational and research activities of RSU include the following thematic fields: healthcare, social welfare, social and human sciences, information and communication sciences, commerce and administration, law, wildlife science, educational sciences.

Signe Tomsone (Country Team Leader), Assoc. Professor at the Department of Rehabilitation, Dean of the Faculty of Rehabilitation. Research interests: older persons – environment interaction, different aspects of housing and their impact on health, ageing, disability and health in different cultural contexts, multidisciplinary and mixed methods research.

Andrejs Ivanovs (Country Team Operator, PhD candidate, Head of Statistics Unit). Research interests: social health determinants, tuberculosis, infection diseases and social-economic factors, health-related quality of life, workability index.

Mirdza Kursite (Country Team Operator Assistant, MD, Project Manager of Statistics Unit.) Research interests: health-related quality of life, cancer prevention, culture and tradition impact on health behavior.
Invitation SHARE France - 4th SHARE annual conference

The French country team is pleased to invite you to the 4th SHARE France annual conference in Paris at Paris Dauphine University, France, on the 22nd of November 2016.

The conference will start at 2 p.m. and it will end at 7 p.m. First, three articles using SHARE data will be presented (in English). In the second part, a Round Table about long-term care insurance will take place (in French). At 7 p.m., you will be kindly invited to enjoy a cocktail.

You can register by filling the >> registration form.

Econometric Game with SHARE data

The Econometric Game is a prestigious competition organized by the study association for Actuarial Science, Econometrics & Operational Research (VSAE) of the University of Amsterdam. The participating universities are fielding teams of four candidates, including no more than two PhD students, who are majoring in Econometrics or other relevant fields. The teams are expected to solve two consecutive case studies. Upon completion, their solutions will be examined by a jury of independent professors who will eventually announce the winner.

This year’s theme of The Econometric Game was “Socioeconomic inequity in health care use among elderly Europeans” which was to be investigated by means of SHARE data. From the 30 participating teams, Harvard University’s outfit eventually emerged as the overall winner ahead of the Warsaw School of Economics and the Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam. Their winning paper, “Business Cycle and Policy Determinants of Socioeconomic Inequity in Healthcare”, examines the extent of horizontal inequity present in the accessibility of healthcare in 18 European countries using 2004-2013 data from SHARE.

The entire SHARE team congratulates team Harvard on their victory!
Impressions from SHARE Exhibition Booths 2016

This year, SHARE organised exhibition booths on five international conferences. Here you can get some impressions. We hope to also meeting you at our events and info booths in 2017.

All information is available on our >> website. Please also follow us on >> Twitter to stay up-to-date.

More than 6000 users

New all-time record for SHARE! We proudly announce that our 6000th SHARE user has registered in September 2016: Isabel, a student from the Netherlands.

She registered for the course “Experiments and Surveys” at Tilburg University. The students of this course are going to conduct research in cultural and cross-country differences while using SHARE data.
Please find here some impressions from SHARE User Workshops all over Europe:

SHARE User workshop in Denmark, September 2016, with
SHARE scientific coordinator Axel Börsch-Supan

SHARE Presentation for potential users in Austria, July 2016

SHARE User workshop in Girona, June 2016

SHARE User workshop in Sweden, February 2016

Selected New Publications

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