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Editorial

Dear SHARE users and friends,

In this edition of our newsletter we would like to keep you up to date with the current developments of the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE). Therefore, we are happy to introduce to you the two most recent country teams, who have joined the SHARE family: Croatia and Lithuania. Croatia was also the host of the SHARE Wave 7 Kick-off Meeting 9-11 September 2015, where we started to prepare the next survey wave. Since January this year, Wave 6 has been in the field with 17 countries participating.

We are also very proud to announce the new First Results Book on inclusion in an ageing Europe based on data from SHARE Wave 5. We will celebrate the release of our new book in Brussels on 29 October 2015. The book will, as usual, be available online for open access. Our hope is that this book provides suggestions for further research with SHARE data.*

Last but not least some news from Munich: We welcome three new colleagues to the SHARE central team and have some information about personnel organization in the SHARE team for you.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Axel Börsch-Supan, Ph.D.
Munich, September 2015

*Important note: Please do not forget to keep informing us about your SHARE related research and publications. Simply send an email to our team and your SHARE publication will be included in the respective publication section of our website. Please be kindly reminded that including the SHARE acknowledgment in every article using SHARE data is essential for SHARE as well as our funders.

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“Ageing in Europe – Supporting policies for an inclusive society”- New book on first results of SHARE Wave 5 out soon!

After the success of our open access volumes with first results from SHARELIFE (Börsch-Supan et al. 2011) and SHARE Wave 4 (Börsch-Supan et al. 2013), a new volume based on first evidence from SHARE Wave 5 will be published in October 2015. Taking a broader perspective on old age poverty in Europe this volume provides evidence on the degree of social and economic inclusion among the ageing European populations. Parts of the book are devoted to the introduction of indices for social and material deprivation derived from the European 50+ Exclusion Module developed for and implemented in the fifth wave of SHARE and several chapters make use of these indicators to further analyse the causes and consequences of social exclusion. It is our hope that the evidence provided in this book will stimulate further research and can contribute to the debate concerning policies that are aimed at attaining more “inclusive” societies.

The complete book will be freely accessible >> here. Keep checking the news on our website to come to know the date of publication!

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easySHARE: Release 2.0.0 available now

Release 2.0.0 of easySHARE is now available for download including Wave 5 data as well as an updated release guide. For those who do not know easySHARE yet: This is a simplified dataset for student training and for researchers with little experience in quantitative analyses of complex survey data. Containing a subset of variables, easySHARE stores information on all respondents and of all currently released data collection waves in one single dataset. easySHARE is available for the statistical software packages Stata, SPSS and R. Further information on easySHARE can be found at >> our website.

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SHARE-ERIC Council meeting in Munich

On 19 March 2015 the annual SHARE-ERIC Council took place at the premises of SHARE-ERIC in Munich. The Council represents all member countries of the ERIC (European Research Infrastructure Consortium). It receives and approves the annual report, the financial statement and the annual spending plan of SHARE. For the first time also Poland and Sweden participated as new members. The scientific discussion focused on the preparations of Wave 6, the introduction of a Dried Blood Spot collection and the efforts SHARE undertakes to increase the willingness of the respondents to participate in the survey for several waves, which is essential for SHARE as a longitudinal study. Furthermore the scientific damage caused by countries dropping out for reasons of funding was stressed. In the administrative part of the Council the Coordinator clarified that SHARE as an important tool for evidence based policy needs also continuous support by the European Commission as one of the biggest users and therefore expressed his hope that applied grants will be approved soon.

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Data update by the end of 2015

SHARE announces a major data update of Waves 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 to be published by the end of 2015. The update will include the latest state of data cleaning as well as an update of weights, imputations and the job episode panel. There will also be some innovations (improved coverscreen, gv_deprivation, sharetom5 and more).

Call for papers - 1st SHARE-RV user conference

The SHARE-RV project team from MEA, in cooperation with the research data center of the German Pension Fund (FDZ-RV), are delighted to announce the 1st SHARE-RV user conference on 14 - 15 March 2016 at the Munich Center for the Economics of Aging at Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy, Germany. This conference aims to bring together researchers working with linked data from SHARE linked with records of the pension fund data, and invites them to present and discuss their most recent methodological approaches and empirical findings. >> Click here to download the call for papers (PDF). Deadline for submissions: 30 October 2015.

SHARE team Croatia

Croatia, the youngest EU member state, has officially joined SHARE in the ongoing Wave 6. Currently, the Croatian country team has two members: Šime Smolić (country team leader) and Ivan Čipin, both from the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Zagreb. Šime is a lecturer and research associate in Macroeconomics, specialized in health economics. His research interests include macroeconomics, health expenditure determinants, health policy and the effects of population ageing on health economy. Ivan is an assistant professor in Demography, with research interests in demography of low fertility, ageing and longevity, and families and households. The Croatian team introduced themselves for the first time at the Wave 5 Midterm Meeting in Prague in April 2013 where they presented a large-scale pilot study they had already conducted in 2012.

*Picture: left: Ivan; right: Šime

SHARE team Lithuania

SHARE Lithuania is coordinated by the oldest and the largest Lithuanian higher education institution – Vilnius University. SHARE activities are supervised by a multidisciplinary team of researchers working within the Faculty of Philosophy, which concentrates research on different social sciences and humanities including psychology, sociology, social work and etc. The process of integration into SHARE was initiated and coordinated by Evaldas Kazlauskas (Head of National HUMRE Infrastructure, Assoc. Professor of Department of Clinical and Organizational
Psychology, Vice-Dean for Studies) and supported by Vida Jakutienė (Lector at the Department of Social Work, Vice-Dean for Relations and Projects), who not only still are the core members of the team, but without their perseverance SHARE in Lithuania would not have been possible. All together the members of the Lithuanian team (listed below) are active researchers with a relevant experience in ageing studies, research methodology and project administration.

**Country team leader:** Dr. Antanas Kairys, assoc. professor at the Department of General Psychology. Research interests: psychological well-being and personality psychology.

**Country team operator:** Olga Zamalijeva, research assistant at the Laboratory of Special Psychology. Research interests: health psychology and health promotion.

Other team members at Vilnius University, Faculty of Philosophy:

**Dr. Albinas Bagdonas,** professor at the Department of General Psychology, head of the Laboratory of Special Psychology. Research interests: neuropsychology, neurobiology, evolutionary psychology.

**Dr. Gražina Rapolienė,** assoc. professor at the Department of Sociology. Research interests: sociology of aging, health sociology.

**Dr. Arūnas Poviliūnas,** professor at the Department of Sociology; Research interests: sociology of communities and rural community development, methodology of comparative historical sociological research.

**Dr. Vilmantė Pakalnisikienė,** assoc. professor at the Department of General Psychology; Research interests: developmental psychology, psychology of aging, advanced statistical analysis and research methodology.

**Dr. Jekaterina Navickė,** researcher at the Department of Social Work; Research interests: comparative and national social policy, poverty and social isolation.


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**Personnel news from Munich**

The SHARE central coordination team in Munich wants to introduce three new colleagues: For any information regarding Public Relation issues please contact from now on Verena Coscia (coscia@mea.mpisoc.mpg.de). Moreover, the SHARE - Database Management has been supported by Tim Birkenbach since October 2014 and Dr. Michael Bergmann started working in the Survey Methodology Unit in January 2015. We would also like to announce some further team changes: Dr. Julie Korbmacher takes over the position as Head of SHARE Communications and Dr. Annette Scherpenzeel, Head of the SHARE Survey Methodology unit will also be in charge as Assistant coordinator (research). The reason is the departure of long time team member Dr. Thorsten Kneip from the project coordination of SHARE. He will take over the position as Academic Coordinator at MEA.

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**Selected new publications**

**Books**


Book Chapters


Journal Articles


Bourassa, K., M. Memel, C. Woolverton and D. Sbarra. Social participation predicts cognitive functioning in aging adults over time: comparisons with physical health, depression, and physical activity. *Aging and Mental Health* forthcoming. DOI: 10.1080/13607863.2015.1081152.


Croezen, S., M. Avendano, A. Burdorf and F. van Lenthe. (2015). Social participation and


Working Papers


Arbeitsmarkt. AMS info (311/312). Public Employment Service Austria (AMS).

Other


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