

# Newsletter 4

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## InGRID research infrastructure

InGRID is a network of distributed, but integrating European research infrastructures. A research infrastructure (RI) is a facility or platform that provides the scientific community with resources and services to conduct top-level research in their respective fields.

InGRID research infrastructures serve the social sciences community that wants to make an evidence-based contribution to a European policy strategy of inclusive growth. This research community focuses on social in/exclusion, vulnerability-at-work and related social and labour market policies from a European comparative perspective. Key tools in this social science research are all types of data: statistics on earnings, administrative social data, labour market data, surveys of quality of life or working conditions, and policy indicators.

The InGRID research infrastructure wants to support this social science community in ways otherwise impossible by integrating:

- data archives/collections that have already been specialising in integrating national data;
- existing EU-wide databases and indicator collections of relevant national institutions and policies;
- new data efforts or projects especially in the field of working conditions and job quality;
- innovative ways to order and analyse data collected by official data providers;
- standards for harmonisation of questionnaires, classifications and policy indicators;
- simulation facilities to enhance statistical quality and to model impacts of policies.

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 <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/>





Since the start of the InGRID-2 project in May 2017, two key policy initiatives that are highly relevant for fostering inclusive growth in Europe have been launched. (1) At the Social summit for fair jobs and growth in Gothenburg (November 2017), the European Commission has put social priorities at the core of its action by officially launching the European Pillar of Social Rights. Twenty principles for delivering new and more effective rights for citizens are grouped under three categories: 'Equal opportunities and access to the labour market', 'Fair working conditions' and 'Social protection and inclusion'. Progress to achieve on these principles will be systematically monitored in Social Scoreboards in the European Semester cycles.

(2) At the beginning of 2019, the Global Commission on the Future of Work, a high-level expert group of the ILO, launched its final report, titled 'Work for a brighter future'. The central message is that in the face of disruptive transformations caused by technology, demographic changes and the ecological transition, a renewed and strengthened social contract is needed.

A human-centered agenda for the future work is proposed based on three pillars: investing in people's capacities, investing in institutions of work to ensure a future of work with freedom, dignity, economic security and equality, and investing in decent and sustainable work.

These two initiatives put inclusive growth at the centre of social and economic policy and, therefore, provide hopeful perspectives for a leap forward to strengthen social cohesion and inclusion in Europe and around the globe.

As an advanced social sciences research infrastructure, InGRID-2 aims to support these important policy initiatives by developing, innovating and disseminating data, indicators, tools and methods that enable an effective and fine-grained monitoring of the progress on the set ambitions. Because this is what eventually thrives and motivates our consortium in all its activities. In this newsletter, as on our project website [www.inclusivegrowth.eu](http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu), you can read more on how we put steps forward in achieving our ambition.

I would like to draw your attention in particular on a number of recent achievements. First, we organised two Round table events to map the data infrastructures on work and poverty for respectively the Baltic, Central and Southeastern European countries in order to identify major gaps and indicate roadmaps to improve the statistical disclosure of the social situation in these regions. Second, we are proud to announce that virtual access to LIS-LWS is now operational, whereas virtual access to EUROMOD is being developed. Virtual access is an important complementary to the on-site access to our 16 infrastructures. Finally, keep an eye on our website because soon the InGRID e-portal will be officially launched! This e-portal will be the central platform to guide you to and through our data infrastructures and we are confident that as such it will further stimulate and facilitate their effective use by researchers and policymakers.

*Monique Ramioul, InGRID project co-ordinator*

## InGRID-2 events

InGRID creates opportunities for networking, dialogue and knowledge exchange through five types of events. The partners are organising **summer schools** for early-stage researchers, **expert workshops** for senior researchers and other experts, **special interest groups** for a specific community within the InGRID community-of-interest, **data forums** to reach out to data providers and research users, and **stakeholder platform conferences**. Calls for these events are frequently launched on the project website and announced in the InGRID newsflashes. Candidates can apply via the website. Accepted participants can receive travel and subsistence reimbursement. Participation to some events can be on invitation only.

### Upcoming events

#### Expert workshop 'Extending InGRID integrated data sets and tools on vulnerable groups with employment conditions data'

28-29 March 2019, Panteion University, Athens (Greece)

The workshop's aim is to bring together experts who have been working on different research aspects of the employment and living conditions of vulnerable groups (children, youths, elderly, disabled, migrants and LGBT). The topics to be covered in the workshop include: quality of life and employment conditions, unemployment, flexible employment and precariousness of vulnerable groups, social protection measures and employment conditions of vulnerable groups, social dialogue on the living and working conditions of vulnerable groups, other specific issues concerning the living and employment conditions of vulnerable groups.

**Deadline for applications:** call is closed

*More information*

<http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/summer-schools/>

#### Summer school 'Vulnerable groups on the labour market' - determinants and consequences of economic vulnerability across Europe'

1-5 April 2019, University of Amsterdam (UvA), Amsterdam (the Netherlands)

This summer school will combine lessons on substantive topics in the mornings with methodological workshops in quantitative methods in the afternoons. Participants will be encouraged to present their own research to receive feedback from senior researchers. The summer school targets early career scholars (PhD

students/postdocs/early stage researchers) with basic (multivariate regression) or advanced quantitative training.

In 'risk' or 'uncertain' societies, vulnerability is a growing concern for individuals, political leaders, and academics. The European Commission describes vulnerable groups as groups that experience a higher risk of poverty and social exclusion than the general population. These groups include for instance ethnic minorities, migrants, disabled people, those struggling with substance abuse but also sexual minorities and younger people. All of them often face difficulties that can lead to further social exclusion, such as low levels of education and unemployment or underemployment.

Against this background, the summer school will focus on identifying the (combinations) of individual-level characteristics that predict the extent to which people are in a vulnerable labour market position. It employs an intersectional perspective to measuring vulnerability and pays particular attention to the identification of vulnerable groups in different European data sets. Moreover, the summer school aims to offer participants an overview of causes and consequences of belonging to a 'vulnerable' group on labour outcomes. It will also provide a clear understanding of how to identify and analyse vulnerable groups over time and across countries. In addition, the topic will be approached from a political and organisational perspective by introducing and discussing solutions and best practices in Europe.

**Deadline for applications:** call is closed

*More information*

<http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/summer-schools/>

## EUROMOD-HHoT summer school 'Using EUROMOD for model family simulations'

22-24 May 2019, CSB - University of Antwerp, Antwerp (Belgium)

The aim of the summer school is to provide academics, policy practitioners and other interested users with an introduction to the concepts, structure and functioning of HHoT and EUROMOD. EUROMOD is a state-of-the-art tax-benefit microsimulation model linking microdata from household surveys and policy legislation in a single user interface. HHoT or the Hypothetical Household Tool is a tool for the simulation of hypothetical families, based on EUROMOD. EUROMOD simulates the different components of a household's disposable income for a given year and country. HHoT generates a data set that EUROMOD will apply for policy simulations, instead of using a regular microdata file.

EUROMOD allows for complex policy impact analysis, such as evaluations of policy reforms in terms of poverty, inequality, work incentives and government budgets, assessments of EU-wide policies or estimation of the impact of changing population characteristics on the redistributive effect of existing policies. HHoT on the other hand does not allow redistributive effects but it allows better understanding of changes in tax-benefit policies, cross-national differences in social outcomes

and evaluating the adequacy, fairness and labour market incentives.

The course will deal with the basics of tax-benefit microsimulation and model family simulation. It will cover the logic and structure behind EUROMOD, working with EUROMOD's user interface, input data, EUROMOD 'language' and using existing documentation.

The use and functions of the HHoT are taught, additionally basic EUROMOD functions form an important part of the course. By a variety of lectures, live demonstrations of the model and hands-on exercises, participants learn how to use the model and refine their understanding of HHoT. At the end of the course, participants are expected to have a good understanding of how HHoT and EUROMOD work and to be capable of using HHoT for their own purposes.

Exercises are carried out using participants' private computers. Participants will be provided with a free copy of the latest public release of EUROMOD to be installed on their own personal computer. The course will use hypothetical families as input data set. No access to 'real' data can be granted based on taking part in the course.

**Deadline for applications:** 31 March 2019

*More information*

<http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/summer-schools>

## Past events

### Summer school 'Advanced research on integration of migrants and refugees' and EU-SILC training workshop 'Comparative research on migration'

Organised by German Institute for Economic Research (DIW), Berlin (Germany)  
from 22 October to 26 October 2018



This summer school, primarily for early stage researchers, combined advanced research on the integration of

refugees and migrants with an EU-SILC clone training workshop. With the help of SOEP data, we have created a clone of EU-SILC longitudinal data for Germany that is especially valuable for migration researchers on methodological issues. In SOEP, different migration subsamples allow much more detailed analysis for migrants of the first or second generation living in Germany than the original EU-SILC sample provided by Eurostat.

On the call for applications, 154 proposals have been placed in time. The InGRID team at DIW Berlin selected 27 research proposals and 26 participants finally accepted the invitation to join the summer school.

In total, we welcomed 22 young researchers coming from the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Italy, Ireland, Hungary, Poland, Germany, Luxembourg, Norway and Czech Republic. Jürgen Schupp, vice-director of SOEP at DIW Berlin and Maria Metzger (SOEP DIW) opened the summer school. The summer school contained four

keynote speeches, eight sessions and one poster session where all participants presented their work, and the training workshop on the EU-SILC clone.

The first keynote of Tuba Bircan (HIVA-KU Leuven) discussed the representation of migrants in large-scale surveys. The second keynote of Herbert Brücker (IAB, BIM and Humboldt University Berlin) presented the theoretical framework and discussed descriptive results on the integration of refugees into the labour market. On Wednesday, Roland Verwiebe (University of Vienna) gave a third keynote 'On changing social stratification of the city: Why are migrants declining from the middle of society in Vienna?'. In the late afternoon, we had our social event where we jointly watched the documentation movie 'Luventa' which is about sea rescue of refugees in the Mediterranean Sea. After the presentation, we had the chance to discuss with one co-producer and one protagonist of the documentation movie the refugee situation in the Mediterranean Sea and the work of NGOs. On Thursday, we had the training workshop on EU-SILC including a presentation of Heike Nachtigall (SOEP DIW) on EU-SILC and the SOEP clone, a presentation of Sandra Bohmann (SOEP DIW) about the SOEP and a training where we gave an introduction with Stata to the clone. On Friday, the last keynote on the 'Intergenerational educational mobility of children of immigrants and natives across Europe: Evidence from the EU-SILC' was presented by Alyssa Schneebaum (WU Wien).

During the whole summer school, participants had an opportunity to present their research and received critical and stimulating feedback and encouragement on their results from at least one of the four keynote speakers, Jürgen Schupp, Silke Hans (Georg-August-University Göttingen), Nicolas Legewie (SOEP DIW) and the other participants. In addition, this summer school was also an occasion to present the InGRID-2 project, including promoting the calls for visiting grants and its procedures.

*More information*

 <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/summer-schools>

### Expert workshop 'Towards new infrastructures on public services'

Organised by CSB - University of Antwerp, Antwerp (Belgium) from 25 October to 26 October 2018

During the expert workshop, all experts provided their input, suggestions, and critique on the draft data template/questionnaire with respect to ECEC.

The workshop started with a presentation by Rense Nieuwenhuis, Tim Goedemé and Sebastian Sirén outlining the main objectives of the InGRID-2 project in general and the workshop in particular. Furthermore, they explained the setup and objectives of the InGRID-2 research task regarding the development of adequate indicators related to the quality, availability and affordability of public services. In particular, they explained how this setup fits in on-going research regarding the measurement of social rights through indicators based on hypothetical household simulations.

Subsequently, the discussion was organised in three parts: (1) Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC); (2) primary and secondary education; (3) overarching issues. The first two parts both started with presentations by the experts on the state of affairs regarding the availability and quality of indicators in the area of ECEC and compulsory education as well as the areas that require most improvement in terms of data quality and availability.

In general, the researchers welcomed the InGRID-2 research on public services. In particular, adequate information on the out-of-pocket costs of households for accessing ECEC and compulsory education was lacking. Having such information available in a comparative setting would be an important benefit. Further, the experts recommended to clearly define what we mean with publicly vs. privately provided (or subsidised) services, given that this distinction is not always easily transferrable between national contexts. Therefore, it is important to more clearly define what we mean with 'public' and 'private'.

In addition, the data template was discussed in detail and gaps in the template as well as redundancies were identified. Further, the experts stressed the importance of selecting the right respondents for the expert questionnaire and agreed that different aspects of the questionnaire required different types of expertise. This implies that it would be worthwhile to consider developing separate questionnaires for the different parts that we want to cover, i.e. ECEC and primary and secondary education, as well as increasing quality for vulnerable groups through targeted financing of schools.

In sum, the workshop delivered on its objectives. In response to the comments and suggestions received, the research teams have started to revise the data template and are currently developing three separate questionnaires rather than one integrated version. Further, the workshop has helped to sharpen the focus of

each part, which will facilitate a higher quality data collection in the second part of the project.

*More information*

🌐 <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/expert-workshops>

### Round table 'Main gaps in research infrastructures in the Balkan countries'

Organised by Panteion University, Athens (Greece) on 29 October 2018

The aim of this event was to gather senior researchers from Greece, InGRID-2 partners and researchers from other Balkan countries in order to discuss in-depth the deficiencies in research infrastructures, as well as what main actions should be undertaken by the research community towards the formulation of national roadmaps to overcome them.

In the Round table, 36 researchers from Greece, United Kingdom, Germany, Croatia and Albania participated. The invited speakers analysed key subjects such as the content and accessibility to data sets (EUROMOD, EU-SILC), the lack of robust data concerning the socially excluded groups, and the possibilities for creating data sets for small areas in the Balkan countries.

In the second part of the Round table, which was focused on an open discussion about the actions that should be undertaken by the research community and academics in Greece, the dialogue was fruitful and raised many useful ideas on how to construct a realistic roadmap in order to overcome deficiencies in research infrastructures in Greece.

*More information*

🌐 <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/round-tables/>

### Data forum 'National working conditions surveys'

Organised by the Central Institute for Labour Protection, National Research Institute (CIOP), Warsaw (Poland) in co-operation with the PEROSH network in Rome (Italy) from 8 November to 9 November 2018

In total 35 people attended the data forum: including representatives of EU-OSHA, researchers, members of the InGRID-2 project consortium and persons from the host institution (INAIL).

The first day of the data forum started with the introduction of the InGRID-2 project by the project co-

ordinator, Monique Ramioul (HIVA-KU Leuven), followed by the presentations of the representatives of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA): 'An overview of the European Survey of Enterprises on New and Emerging Risks (ESENER)' by Maurizio Curtarelli and 'OSH BAROMETER: Data Visualisation Tool' by Lothar Lieck, presenting the status of occupational safety and health in the European Union and the presentation on the methodology related to the determination of indicators to help monitor working conditions by Andranik Tangian from Karlsruhe Institute of Technology.



The second session was dedicated to research on working conditions in European countries - the examples of national working conditions surveys from Germany (BIBB/BAuA Employment Survey of the Working Population on Qualification and Working Conditions), Italy (National Survey on Health and Safety at Work (INSULA)), Poland (Working Conditions Survey) and Norway (Survey of Level of Living - Working Conditions) were presented. This session was continued on the second day, with the representatives of TNO, INSST and CNAM-CEET presenting further examples of national surveys on working conditions, such as the Netherlands Working Conditions Survey, the Spanish Working Condition Surveys and the French Working Conditions Survey. The closing session was dedicated to current challenges and developments in the field of working conditions, discussed based on examples using the data from surveys and questionnaires, presented by the representatives from the University of Gävle, University of Eastern Finland and University of Bologna.

*More information*

🌐 <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/data-forums/>

## Winter school 'Using EUROMOD in cross country microsimulation'

Organised by the Institute for Social and Economic Research (ISER), Colchester (UK) from 21 November to 23 November 2018



The 24 participants who attended originated from a variety of institutions across the European Union including universities, financial institutions and ministries and included academics, policy practitioners and other interested users.

EUROMOD is a state-of-the-art multi-country tax-benefit microsimulation model for the European Union, led by ISER and funded by DG Employment. EUROMOD links microdata from household surveys and policy legislation in a single user interface, enabling the effects of policy and other changes on the income distribution to be analysed in a comparative perspective.

Miko Tammik, a member of the EUROMOD team, led the event with the support of colleagues Kostas Manios, Diego Collado and Andrea Papini. The course covered the basics of tax-benefit microsimulation, the logic and structure behind EUROMOD, working with EUROMOD's user interface, input data, EUROMOD 'language' and using existing documentation. The bulk of the course was dedicated to teaching EUROMOD functions that form the building blocks of the EUROMOD 'language'.

Time was allocated throughout the three days for practical hands-on exercises, allowing time to get used to the tool. These exercises can be found [here](#). Participants were also provided with the opportunity to present their projects to the group, explaining how they would be using EUROMOD to push these forward, this opportunity was taken on this occasion.

Initial feedback following the course has been very positive, with participants expressing satisfaction both with the lecture sessions and especially with the practical hands-on component.

More information

<http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/summer-schools/>

## Expert workshop 'Rights of migrants'

Organised by HIVA-KU Leuven, Leuven (Belgium) from 23 January to 25 January 2019



In line with its goal, to discuss the state of rights of migrants in the EU, we convened established scholars and practitioners with senior experts from Belgium, Sweden, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Luxembourg, Ireland, Serbia, Moldova and Albania.

The workshop started with a welcome and introduction by Ides Nicaise. He outlined the main objectives of the InGRID-2 project in general and the workshop in particular. He paid special attention to the specific data set to compare the rights of different categories of migrants (intra- and non-EU migrant workers, working and non-working, asylum seekers, refugees, undocumented immigrants, ...) in the context of human rights, legal rights, social protection, right to work and social services. All participants had started to work on the questionnaire for the country of their expertise.

The workshop had four main parts: (1) social protection for refugees and undocumented migrants, (2) European perspective of migrants' rights, (3) evidence from non-EU countries within Europe and (4) hands-on session: Rights of migrants questionnaire.

We started the first three sessions with a keynote speech from distinguished experts. In the first session, Peo Hansen, from the Institute for Research on Migration, Ethnicity and Society (REMESO), Linköping University, Sweden, talked about 'Public spending and refugee integration: a recipe for inclusive growth?'. The second session's keynote speaker was Jean-Michel Lafleur from CEDEM, University of Liège, Belgium. He gave a speech about 'Loss of residence permit of mobile EU citizens who make use of welfare'. Our final keynote speaker was Ides Nicaise, who talked about 'Income and living conditions of undocumented migrants in Belgium: main findings of the SILC-CUT

research'. Each of these sessions included presentations of the participants, followed by a discussion moderated by the respective keynote speaker.

The final session was devoted to a thorough discussion on the questionnaire for rights of migrants. As a demonstration, the results of the completed studies from Sweden, Germany, Belgium and Luxemburg were presented. Afterwards, the questionnaire template was discussed in detail. Each participant presented the challenges they had faced and consequently gaps in the template as well as redundancies were identified. Moreover, some questions and variables are selected to be reviewed for a better and more convenient cross-country comparison.

To sum up, the expert workshop was successfully completed and served its aims sufficiently. Based on the feedbacks and suggestions from the participants, the Swedish team, that has been working on the questionnaire, decided to rework the questionnaire and fine-tune the questions, definitions and explanations. A revised version of the questionnaire will be distributed after the workshop and the participants will complete their work on the updated version.

*More information*

<http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/expert-workshops/>

## Round table on 'Main gaps in research infrastructures in Central-Eastern Europe'

Organised by CELSI, Bratislava (Slovakia) from 7 March to 8 March 2019

More than 30 experts and advocates of research data in social sciences gathered to discuss the gaps in research infrastructures. The aim of the event was to discuss the gaps in research infrastructures in Central-Eastern European countries.

During the event, specific databases and data harmonising initiatives throughout Europe have been introduced. In addition, cases studies from Poland, Hungary and Romania about data availability on specific topics and vulnerable groups, have been presented. The Round table was also an opportunity to discuss the role of administrative data and ways to overcome the challenges in research infrastructures.

*More information*

<http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/round-tables/>

More information on InGRID-2 events:

<http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/events>

## Partners in the picture

In each newsletter, we present some of our partner institutes and their main research infrastructure(s). This time, InGRID partners SOFI and HIVA-KU Leuven provide us with answers to our interview questions.

### SOFI – University of Stockholm

**Q: Can you tell us a little more about the InGRID team at SOFI? What is your key expertise?**

**SOFI:** The InGRID team at SOFI has broad experience of comparative social policy analysis, its drivers and outcomes. The team involves Kenneth Nelson (professor of sociology), Rense Nieuwenhuis (associate professor of sociology), and four doctoral students (Laure Doctrinal, Maria Forslund, Daniel Fredriksson, and Sebastian Sirén). Sofie Burman and

Mari Eneroth provide research assistance. Whereas Kenneth has written extensively on minimum income benefits, Rense has specialised in family policy. Laure is writing a dissertation about old age pensions. Maria's dissertation focuses on the interplay between sickness insurance and health care systems. Daniel recently defended his dissertation on active labour market policy, and Sebastian is working on a dissertation on global social policy, redistribution, and poverty. All this ongoing work is comparative in character and most of us use SPIN data in various parts of our analyses. The SPIN database contains a vast amount of

institutional information and variables on how countries have organised social policy. Through the InGRID project, many TNA visitors have visited SOFI and worked with SPIN data.

**Q: Is there any work or achievement within InGRID of which your team is particularly proud? Will you continue working on this?**

**SOFI:** We have accomplished many things in InGRID that we consider valuable for research. During the first InGRID project, we established a new method of analysing income replacement in out-of-work benefits, separating between progressiveness and levels of income replacement. This research task eventually helped us to construct a new SPIN module on out-of-work benefits, which now is readily available for download.

In InGRID-2, we have a research task on figuring out new ways of measuring the social rights of different migrant groups, a very under-researched topic. We set up a coding template to be used by national experts, and once we get the results we may for the first time ever be able to analyse how inclusive welfare systems in different European countries are to the income needs of migrants.

We are also in the middle of an InGRID-2 task focusing on Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC), another policy in great need of new and better data. The conceptual work and data gathering in this pilot study will contribute with longer time series of cross-national data on childcare and related policies.

**Q: What is the most important task your research group will work on during InGRID-2?**

**SOFI:** Besides transnational access and providing better opportunities for researchers to work with and learn from the experiences of the SPIN database, we would say our InGRID-2 project on Early Childhood Education and Care. Potentially, the work we do in this area will benefit a vast amount of researchers and policymakers, not the least since childcare is such a popular topic in academia. It is also an issue high up the EU political agenda and an important element of the social investment package, albeit contested in some European countries.

**Q: Is there something you would like to add at the end of this interview?**

**SOFI:** We think it is important to emphasise the need for the EU to continue to provide funding to facilitate synergies between distributed infrastructures in the

social sciences, similar to what we do in InGRID. The next few years in the InGRID-2 project will also be very exciting. Besides finalising very interesting research tasks, we also need to work out a way forward, and agree on where we want to go with the InGRID research infrastructure in the future. Albeit challenging, these future-oriented tasks often provide important reflections on what we have achieved so far.



**For any further questions**

Kenneth Nelson - [kennethn@sofi.su.se](mailto:kennethn@sofi.su.se)

Rense Nieuwenhuis - [rense.nieuwenhuis@sofi.su.se](mailto:rense.nieuwenhuis@sofi.su.se)

**HIVA-KU Leuven**

**Q: Can you tell us a little more about the InGRID team at HIVA? What is your key expertise?**

**HIVA:** HIVA - Research Institute for Work and Society is a multidisciplinary research institution at KU Leuven. HIVA carries out evidence-based policy-oriented research, which focuses on different types of societal challenges that Europe is facing today. The combination of different research disciplines under a single roof - the InGRID team at HIVA is composed of sociologists, psychologists, economists and pedagogues - and our specialisation in policy-oriented research give HIVA a unique position not just within KU Leuven but also far beyond. As a policy-oriented research institute, HIVA has a track record in both participating and co-ordinating national and European projects, including work and organisation, labour markets, social dialogue and poverty and social inclusion; the topics we cover in InGRID-2.

In InGRID-2, the HIVA team involved reflects the focus and diversity of our research institute. First, as the project's co-ordinating partner, we have a strong focus on project management, dissemination and outreach and strategic advancement. These tasks are taken up by all four members of the co-ordination

team: Monique Ramioul, Karolien Lenaerts, Ine Smits and Sandra Volders.

Besides the management tasks, HIVA is involved in research activities in both project pillars, this is completed by the work of multiple junior and senior researchers in the fields of poverty and living conditions (a.o. by Ides Nicaise, Tuba Bircan and Özgün Ünver), as well as in the field of working conditions and vulnerability (a.o. by Karolien Lenaerts, Sem Vandekerckhove, Maarten Hermans and Ine Smits).

**Q: What is the most important task your research group will work on during InGRID-2?**

**HIVA:** The HIVA team will be involved in multiple very interesting and relevant tasks in the course of InGRID-2, such as the harmonisation of data on educational careers, the harmonisation of national data on working conditions, the mapping of available administrative data, checking the feasibility of microsimulations based on occupational prototypes, and the development of indicator standards for measuring job quality and occupational safety and health.

Besides these research tasks, HIVA is responsible for the development of an online portal to facilitate access to existing data in the fields of poverty, living conditions, working conditions and vulnerability. Sustainability and accessibility are crucial for the use of existing data sources and for the dissemination of the tools, methods and data that are created in the InGRID-2 research infrastructures. An online research portal will be the gateway to this information. The portal is a platform including metadata on relevant (trans)national data infrastructures in the fields of working conditions, vulnerability, poverty and living conditions. It is created with the idea of collecting data

sources in one place to facilitate and alleviate research and to organise the knowledge exchange on the infrastructure. The target population of the e-portal are all interested parties in the field of comparative European policy research on poverty, living conditions, working conditions and/or vulnerability.

As a searchable repository, it will not provide data or access to data; it will offer an overview of the existing data and where to find them. Some of the included data will add restrictions on access rights related to the professional statute of the user, but the e-portal itself is open for everyone.

We are currently in the last stages of developing this portal, which will be launched in the spring of 2019 and available via [www.ingridportal.eu](http://www.ingridportal.eu). We invite all members of the InGRID-2 community to use and contribute to the further development of the e-portal.

**Q: Is there something you would like to add at the end of this interview?**

**HIVA:** As co-ordinator of the first and second InGRID project, we are especially proud about the achievements of the research infrastructure in general. The eight-year engagement of the InGRID partners to work on the topic of inclusive growth in very diverse but interesting ways is crucial for this success. We hope to be able to continue building on this network in the future.

**For any further questions**

Monique Ramioul – [monique.ramioul@kuleuven.be](mailto:monique.ramioul@kuleuven.be)  
 Karolien Lenaerts – [karolien.lenaerts@kuleuven.be](mailto:karolien.lenaerts@kuleuven.be)  
 Ine Smits – [ine.smits@kuleuven.be](mailto:ine.smits@kuleuven.be)  
 Ides Nicaise – [ides.nicaise@kuleuven.be](mailto:ides.nicaise@kuleuven.be)  
 Sandra Volders - [sandra.volders@kuleuven.be](mailto:sandra.volders@kuleuven.be)

## Community news

### A new research project on housing benefits

Kenneth Nelson and Rense Nieuwenhuis (SOFI) have received a new research grant from the Swedish Research Council on Health, Working Conditions, and Welfare (FORTE). The project will run for three years at SOFI, Stockholm University. Besides utilising SPIN data, which is an important infrastructure in the InGRID project, we will use in this project the HHoT tool in EUROMOD. The HHoT tool facilitates model family analysis in EUROMOD, and was developed in an

InGRID joint research task. We will use the HHoT tool to gather new comparative data on the generosity of housing benefits in EU countries, and feed this data into the SPIN database.

Housing benefits exist in nearly all European countries. They are usually put in place to reduce housing costs and improve housing conditions of low-income households. Despite the prominence of housing benefits in governments' anti-poverty policies, inadequate housing conditions, such as overcrowding and insufficiencies in basic facilities, continue to be a widespread problem also in many European countries. Are housing

benefits simply too low to effectively combat inadequate forms of housing, or are the processes leading to poor housing conditions more complex?

In this project, we will assess the role of housing benefits for inadequate housing conditions. We assume that the role and functioning of housing benefits cannot be understood in isolation, but needs to be analysed in conjunction with rental market regulations and more general social policy structures. The working hypothesis is that integrated rental systems and comprehensive forms of income protection in periods of work incapacity, improve the possibilities of housing benefits to combat poor housing conditions.

Using comparative micro level survey data for a large number of European countries together with new macro level data on housing benefits, while integrating quantitative and qualitative analyses, the project will make an important contribution to existing research.

### Final conference RE-InVEST project on 28-29 March 2019

On 28-29 March 2019, the final conference of the RE-InVEST project, a four-year participatory action-research (funded by Horizon 2020) on social investment in various policy areas for a more inclusive Europe, is organised. This high-level conference will be an opportunity for dialogue on these issues between researchers, policymakers, public and social services, and civil society. It will be held in Leuven, with an opening address by the European Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs.

*More information*

 <http://www.re-invest.eu/events/>

### SERISS Coding of socio-economic variables

Under the Synergies for Europe's Research Infrastructures in the Social Sciences (SERISS) project, a team has been working on the development of a set of cross-nationally harmonised tools for the measurement and coding of socio-economic variables. The variables covered are educational attainment, field of education, employment status, occupation and industry.

The tools are designed for use with CAPI/CAWI, and for manual selection of the required codes via a database look-up interface. They use large, multi-lingual dictionaries of job titles, industry names, and fields of education and training. Additionally, the module includes country-specific, structured lists of educational qualifications and employment status categories, and provides up-to-date codes for these classifications. The tools are free to use at least until June 2019.

You can find further information, and demo versions, on <http://www.surveycodings.org> (please note this site is still under construction, and some of the tools are still being developed).

A workshop took place in Venice on 14-15 February 2019, to discuss the challenges of current practice in measuring and coding these socio-economic variables and look at the ways in which the survey codings tools can help. The programme included presentations about the tools and their use, interactive presentations from participants, and opportunities to try using the tools. Being a hands-on, participatory event, this workshop aimed towards programmers, coders and survey managers (and others in similar roles).

## Visiting grants

More information: <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/visiting-grants>

Experiences of visitors: <https://www.youtube.com/embed/IB2p3oHGtxE?controls=2&>

Outcomes following from visits: <http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/output-from-visits>

A key activity of the InGRID-2 project is providing transnational access to research infrastructures with data and expertise within the fields of poverty and living conditions, and working conditions and vulnerability. Researchers are invited to apply for free-of-charge access to and support in one of the 16 research infrastructures. Next to access to statistical competence centres with expertise in social science statistical research, access will be granted to major surveys and tools such as LIS, IEPM, ECHP, LWS, CNEF, SOEP, EUROMOD, IRISS, SPIN, CSB-MIPI, EWCS, ECS, ESENER, ICTWSS, WISCO, EU-LFS, EU micro data sets, ... in research infrastructures with extensive experience in working with these data. A description of the research infrastructures can be found on the InGRID website.

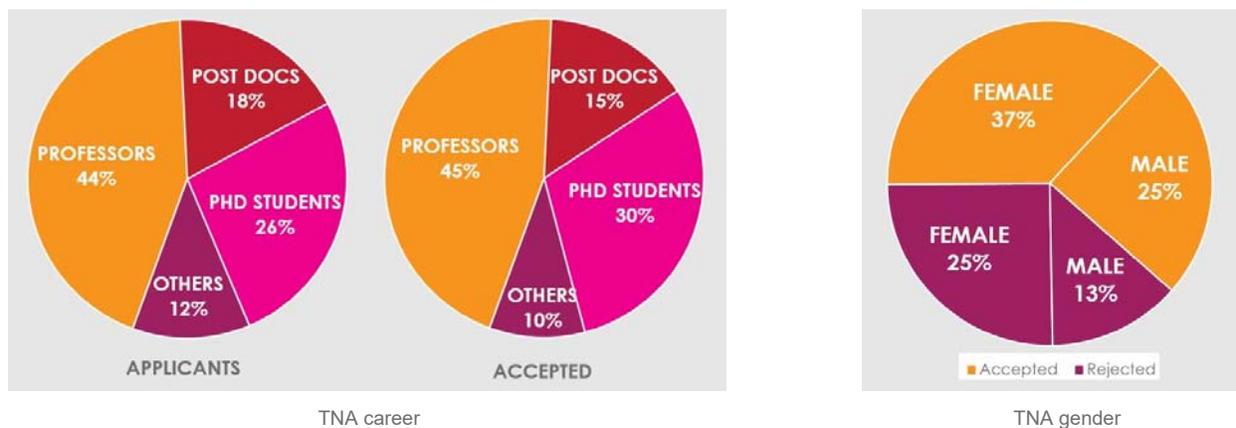
Via short and long-term visiting grants (between 5 and 15 days), researchers will be able to experiment with and work on data in a context of mutual knowledge

exchange and cross-fertilisation. Single visits as well as group visits are possible. For group visits, all group members are required to fill in the application form and identify the same group leader.

Each of the host institutes has expertise in and access to leading European (comparative) data sets or expertise in working with specialised statistical techniques for social sciences research. During a visit users get the opportunity to work together with experts from the host institution on their own project, receive access to, and support and guidance in the use of the data, advice on methodological questions and on the progress of their project. Candidates can apply for a visiting grant through the online application form.

In March 2019, the sixth call for visiting grants is launched. The deadline for applications is 17 April 2019. Decisions on the acceptance of applicants will be communicated in June 2019. Also in June, a new call will be launched.

We are proud to announce that we have received 208 applications for a visiting grant in the first five calls, of which more than half of them were accepted. Applicants came from 45 countries and are well spread across career stages and gender.



More information

<http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu/visiting-grants>

## Calendar 2019

### April 2019

- 1-5 April 2019: Summer school 'Vulnerable groups on the labour market – determinants and consequences of economic vulnerability across Europe' @ UvA, Amsterdam (the Netherlands)

### May 2019

- 22-24 May 2019: EUROMOD-HHoT summer school 'Using EUROMOD for model family simulations' @ CSB, Antwerp (Belgium)

### June 2019

- Communication on the decisions on applications for transnational access visiting grants (for call 6)
- Launch seventh call for visiting grants

### September 2019

- InGRID newsletter issue 5

**Co-ordinator**  
Monique Ramioul



InGRID-2

### Partners

TÁRKI Social Research Institute Inc. (HU)  
Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Labour Studies – AIAS, University of Amsterdam (NL)  
Swedish Institute for Social Research - SOFI, Stockholm University (SE)  
Economic and Social Statistics Department, Trier University (DE)  
Centre for Demographic Studies – CED, University Autònoma of Barcelona (ES)  
Luxembourg Institute of Socio-Economic Research – LISER (LU)  
Herman Deleeck Centre for Social Policy – CSB, University of Antwerp (BE)  
Institute for Social and Economic Research - ISER, University of Essex (UK)  
German Institute for Economic Research – DIW (DE)  
Centre for Employment and Work Studies – CEET, National Conservatory of Arts and Crafts (FR)  
Centre for European Policy Studies – CEPS (BE)  
Department of Economics and Management, University of Pisa (IT)  
Department of Social Statistics and Demography – SOTON, University of Southampton (UK)  
Luxembourg Income Study – LIS, asbl (LU)  
School of Social Sciences, University of Manchester (UK)  
Central European Labour Studies Institute – CELSI (SK)  
Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences (GR)  
Central Institute for Labour Protection – CIOP, National Research Institute (PL)

Integrating Research Infrastructure for European expertise on Inclusive Growth from data to policy Contract N° 730998

For further information about the InGRID-2 project, please contact [inclusive.growth@kuleuven.be](mailto:inclusive.growth@kuleuven.be) or [www.inclusivegrowth.eu](http://www.inclusivegrowth.eu) p/a HIVA – Research Institute for Work and Society Parkstraat 47 box 5300 3000 Leuven Belgium