

Transformations in Housing and Intergenerational Contracts in Europe (THICE)

Initiative: Herausforderungen für Europa

Ausschreibung: Challenges and Potentials for Europe: Intergenerational Futures

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Laufzeit: 4 Jahre

This project aims to deepen the understanding of how housing wealth is reshaping intergenerational relationships in Europe and to explore socially just solutions. Increasing housing inequalities with growing concentrations of wealth among homeowners, especially older ones, and diminishing access to affordable housing, especially among younger adults have affected European societies in recent decades. At the same time, there has been a revival of family dependencies and intergenerational transfers that sustain welfare and life-course transitions for younger generations. Intergenerational support, both financial and in kind, has increasingly centred on housing with, for example, rising adult co-residence with parents and family assistance for people buying their first property. This marks a profound shift in the intergenerational contract. To investigate this restructuring of the intergenerational contract, the project applies a comparative, cross-disciplinary approach that integrates quantitative and qualitative analyses. While work packages 1 to 4 focus on analysing the institutional foundations of intergenerational relations; the varying meanings and practices of family and kinship and their intersection with housing and household formation; the intergenerational support and its outcomes; and the inequalities between and within generations in the context of housing; the final work package will develop visions of best practices for Intergenerational Housing Futures.

Projektbeteiligte

Prof. Dr. Ilse Helbrecht

Humboldt-Universität Berlin
Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftliche Fakultät
Geographisches Institut
Kultur- und Sozialgeographie
Berlin

Dr. Rowan Arundel

University of Amsterdam (UvA)
Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences
GPIO: Political and Economic Geographies
Amsterdam
Niederlande

Dr. Ricardo Duque-Calvache

Universidad de Granada
Department of Sociology
Granada
Spanien

Prof. Dr. Richard Ronald

University of Amsterdam (UvA)
Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences
GPIO: Political and Economic Geographies
Amsterdam
Niederlande

Dr. Stephan Köppe

University College Dublin
National University of Ireland
Social Policy, Social Work & Social Justice
Social Policy
Dublin
Irland