

an international
research project
[2000-2003]



HOUSEHOLDS, WORK AND FLEXIBILITY

Series of project research reports

United Kingdom
the Netherlands
Sweden
Slovenia
Czech Republic
Hungary
Bulgaria
Romania

Research Report #5

COMPARATIVE CONTEXTUAL REPORT

Demographic trends,
labour market and
social policies

Edited by
Claire Wallace



Project funded and supported
by the European Community

Project coordinated by the
Institut für Höhere Studien (IHS), Wien
Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna



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Human Research Potential & the Socio-economic
Knowledge base" of the European Community

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Institut für Höhere Studien (IHS), Wien
Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna



Annotation

This book "*HWF Comparative context Report*" is the fifth issue in a series of research reports being produced within the framework of the multinational research project "**Households, Work and Flexibility**". The Report provides a comparative overview of demographic trends, labour market trends, labour market policies and social and family policies relating to flexibility, as well as trends in atypical forms of employment in all the 8 countries of the project. The countries covered are: three EU-member states (United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Sweden) and five Applicant countries (Slovenia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Bulgaria and Romania).

Acknowledgements

The contents of this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinion or position of the European Commission.

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We are also grateful to Dr. Sergei Nagaev for thorough processing, harmonization and cleaning of HWF Survey data sets, Mr. Radu Dobreci for his help with the layout of the published reports and to Dr. Alexander Chvorostov for his energetic and careful guidance and editing of HWF research reports.

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Long-term trends in atypical forms of employment

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Preface

► HOUSEHOLDS, WORK AND FLEXIBILITY Comparative Contextual Report: Demographic Trends, Labour Market and Social Policies

[Claire Wallace, Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna]

This book is written as Deliverable No. 14 of the project *Households, Work and Flexibility (HWF)* funded by the European Commission under the Fifth Framework Programme contract no. HPSE-1999-00030. The project extended from April 2000 to April 2003. We are grateful to the European Commission for their support of this work. Further information and reports can be found on the homepage of this project: <http://www.hwf.at>. It is also possible to receive copies of reports through the library of the Institute for Advanced Studies, Stumpergasse 56, Vienna 1060 Austria.

The project is designed to explore the relationship between households and the kinds of work they undertake, including all family members and using a broad definition of work to include both paid and unpaid labour. The project considers the role of flexibility in this context and for this purpose we have defined flexibility in terms of time, place and conditions. That is, we are considering flexible hours of work, flexible place of work and various contractual conditions.

The countries chosen were intended to be illustrative of different policy approaches to flexibilisation and the work-family balance. However, we have also compared Western European EU countries with a range of East-Central European (from here on ECE) Accession countries in this analysis to understand the differential impact of these trends across Europe. The countries chosen were: the UK, Sweden, the Netherlands, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria. The research team represent a cross-disciplinary group of sociologists, economists, educationalists and social policy specialists. The project is co-ordinated by the Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna.

The main research instruments were a quantitative representative sample survey carried out in each country with people of working age (18-65) and an analysis of social policies and labour market trends. The survey was carried out in the first half of 2001 and the results are reported in Wallace et al. (Wallace 2003; Wallace, Chvorostov,

Nagaev 2003). A comparison of the labour market and social policies can be found in this report.

The project is intended to look not just at the behaviour of people in the labour market (taking into account their domestic, as well as formal and informal work) but also their attitudes and values with respect to it. In other words, what Glucksman (Glucksman 1995) has called the Total Social Organisation of Labour. Thus we explore the ways in which people feel that family life and work should be combined and whether work impinges on their family life. We also explore the conflicts and tensions that this might generate within the household. In addition we explore the extent to which people can control their conditions of work.

The conditions of work and the work-family balance depend upon the kinds of labour market and social policies introduced in each country as

well as the nature of social dialogue there. These issues are normally analysed separately. In this volume we compare these different policies and trends across the countries under consideration. They include countries with high interventionist strategies such as Sweden and Slovenia as well as countries with low interventionist strategies such as the UK. Other countries have varying degrees of regulation and de-regulation in family and labour market which we compare using various models.

The report consists of two parts. The first part (author Claire Wallace) considers the most important issues of labour market as well as of family and social policies in the HWF countries. The second part of the given report (author Pavle Sicherl) analyses long term trends in atypical forms of employment.

▶ **HOUSEHOLDS, WORK AND FLEXIBILITY**

Comparative Contextual Report
Demographic Trends, Labour Market and Social Policies

▶▶ **PART ONE**

**LABOUR MARKET, FAMILY
AND SOCIAL POLICIES**

[Claire Wallace, Institute for Advanced Studies, Vienna]

▶▶ PART ONE

LABOUR MARKET, FAMILY AND SOCIAL POLICIES

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▶▶ **HOUSEHOLDS, WORK AND FLEXIBILITY**

Comparative Contextual Report
Demographic Trends, Labour Market and Social Policies

▶▶ **PART TWO**

**LONG-TERM TRENDS
IN ATYPICAL FORMS
OF EMPLOYMENT**

[Pavle Sicherl, SICENTER and University of Ljubljana]

▶▶ PART TWO

LONG-TERM TRENDS IN ATYPICAL FORMS OF EMPLOYMENT

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Annex

▶▶ HWF SURVEY: SHORT DESCRIPTION

the United Kingdom

<i>General sample size</i>	945
<i>Conventional sample (*)</i>	941
<i>Method of interview</i>	Personal face-to-face interviews with trained interviewers.
<i>Field agency</i>	NFO World Group (formally System Three Social Research) Wembley Point, Harrow Road, Wembley Middlesex HA9 6DE, UK
<i>Date of the survey</i>	February 19, 2001 – May 8, 2001

The Netherlands

<i>General sample size</i>	1007
<i>Conventional sample (*)</i>	1007
<i>Method of interview</i>	Telephone interviews with trained interviewers.
<i>Field agency</i>	Desan market research Stoas PO box 78, 6700 AB Wageningen, The Netherlands
<i>Date of the survey</i>	March 12, 2001 – April 9, 2001

Sweden

<i>General sample size</i>	2292
<i>Conventional sample**(*)</i>	1284
<i>Method of interview</i>	Survey was conducted by using postal method.
<i>Field agency</i>	Statistics Sweden SCB S-701 89 ÖREBRO, Sweden
<i>Date of the survey</i>	February 19, 2001 – May 8, 2001

Slovenia

<i>General sample size</i>	1008
<i>Conventional sample (*)</i>	839
<i>Method of interview</i>	Personal face-to-face interviews with trained interviewers.
<i>Field agency</i>	Public Opinion and Mass Communication Research Center (CJMMK) , Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Kardeljeva ploscad 5, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia
<i>Date of the survey</i>	April 20, 2001 – June 12, 2001

* Conventional sample includes only persons aged between 18 and 65.

** For Sweden, the Conventional sample does not include IT workers.

Czech Republic

<i>General sample size</i>	1556
<i>Conventional sample*(*)</i>	1556
<i>Method of interview</i>	Personal face-to-face interviews with trained interviewers.
<i>Field agency</i>	STEM - Centre for empirical research Jilska 1, 110 00, Praha 1
<i>Date of the survey</i>	January 03, 2001 – June 10, 2001

Hungary

<i>General sample size</i>	1116
<i>Conventional sample (*)</i>	1116
<i>Method of interview</i>	Personal face-to-face interviews with trained interviewers.
<i>Field agency</i>	THE TÁRKI GROUP TARKI, Budaörsi út 45, 1112 Budapest, Hungary
<i>Date of the survey</i>	January 31, 2001 – February 07, 2001

Bulgaria

<i>General sample size</i>	1864
<i>Conventional sample (*)</i>	1806
<i>Method of interview</i>	Personal face-to-face interviews with trained interviewers.
<i>Field agency</i>	Fact Sociological Agency, Sofia 1000, 6 th of September Street, No. 6B, Bulgaria
<i>Date of the survey</i>	February 1, 2001 – March 5, 2001

Romania

<i>General sample size</i>	1864
<i>Conventional sample (*)</i>	1524
<i>Method of interview</i>	Personal face-to-face interviews with trained interviewers.
<i>Field agency</i>	The Institute for the Study of the Quality of Life, Bucharest, Sector 5, Calea 13 Septembrie, No. 13, Romania
<i>Date of the survey</i>	February 1, 2001 – March 5, 2001

* Conventional sample includes only persons aged between 18 and 65.

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► RELATED PUBLICATIONS*

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Selected publications are also available on the HWF home page <www.hwf.at>

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