



*Conference of the Trinational Research Project*

# **Decent Care Work? Transnational Home Care Arrangements**

*6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021, online*



# About the Conference

The ageing of industrialized societies in combination with the absence of an adequate (welfare state) response is engendering an alarming deficit of care work. This, in turn, has paved the way for the commodification of care work, formerly a typical case of feminized, reproductive work, carried out informally and unpaid within the family. This conference examines if and how a sea change concerning the commodification and formalization of care work is gradually affecting the public understanding of decent work and decent care. As starting point, we are drawing on the findings of a collaborative survey of transnationally operating care agencies recruiting migrant live-in carers from Central and Eastern Europe for work in Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The project examines how agencies, care receivers and caregivers negotiate their expectations regarding decent care and decent work. It also includes the perspective of stakeholders in the field like trade unions, associations, NGOs, care workers' activism and networks, their stay behind relatives etc.

This conference seeks to generate profound discussions of the findings of current international research; it offers new insights from research on migration, labor, care markets, care workers and their organizations. By highlighting deficiencies in the economic, political and social regulation, it aims to shed light on the fundamental contradiction between decent care and decent work.

Four key areas will be addressed during the conference:

## (1) The Transnational Commodification, Marketization and Corporatization of Live-in Care

- What similarities and differences in the patterns of transnational care work can be observed in Europe and globally?
- What processes of commodification, marketization and corporatization can be identified?
- Who are the main actors in this field and how do they influence the organization of live-in care, the respective policies/politics and the working conditions of the caregivers?

## (2) Expectations, Contradictions and Social Inequalities in Transnational Home Care Arrangements

- Which contradictions and conflicts arise among the actors involved in care work giving, -receiving, and the -brokering?
- In what way are transnational care arrangements structured by social inequalities?
- How are live-in care arrangements integrated in other care and nursing services (care mix) and affected by them?

## (3) Agency and (Self) Organizing of Live-in Care Workers

- Which agency and aspirations do care workers and their families have?
- Which forms of organizing of live-in care workers can be observed, e.g. what role do digital networks play?
- Which problems of organizing and self-organizing are identified by protagonists like representatives of NGOs, trade unions etc.?

## (4) Regularization of Transnational Care Work

- What are the weaknesses and loopholes of legal and political frameworks?
- What are their consequences both for the immediately involved actors and inequality in society at large?
- How is legislation challenged by national as well as supra- and international regulations?

This set of questions requires an interdisciplinary analysis. Therefore, the conference aims at bringing together researchers from a variety of disciplines, including anthropology, gerontology, sociology, socio-legal studies, gender and migration studies and social/public policy.

# Conference Program

6 April 2021

12.45-13.00

Virtual Come Together

13.00-14.15

OPENING PLENARY SESSION:

## The Marketization and Transnationalization of Elderly Care Work in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.

Discussion on the Results from the “Decent Care Work” Project.

Moderation: EWA PALENGA-MÖLLENBECK (Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany)

HELMA LUTZ (Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany)

BRIGITTE AULENBACHER (Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria)

KARIN SCHWITER (University of Zurich, Switzerland)

14.15-14.30

Coffee Break

14.30-16.00

PARALLEL SESSIONS

## a. The Transnational Commodification, Marketization and Corporatization of Live-in Care I

Moderation: HELMA LUTZ

ZUZANA UHDE (Czech Academy of Sciences, Czech Republic) & Co-author PETRA EZZEDDINE (Charles University, Czech Republic): *Landscapes of Care in Central Europe: The Political Economy of Trans-local Social Reproduction*

KRISTINE KRAUSE & Co-authors: MARIUSZ SAPIEHA, LUISE SCHURIAN (University of Amsterdam, Netherlands): *Care Relocation and Transnational Commercial Care Infrastructures in Central Eastern Europe*

TANJA VISIC (University of Erfurt, Germany): *'Illegalization' of Everyday Life and Work in 'Elder Care Labour Mobility Industry' between Ex-Yugoslavia and Germany*

MAJDA HRZENJAK (Peace Institute, Slovenia): *Transnationalization of Eldercare in Slovenia – An Outline of a Recent Phenomena*

## b. Expectations, Contradictions and Social Inequalities in Transnational Home Care Arrangements I

Moderation: EWA PALENGA-MÖLLENBECK

ANA PAULA GIL (Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, NOVA, Portugal): *[In]Decent Work Conditions and Quality Care: A Vicious Circle – An Issue for Long-term Care Policy*

FRANCESCA DEGIULI (Fairleigh Dickinson University, United States): *The Role of Geriatric Doctors in Shaping Family's Choices for Long-term Care. An Analysis of the Italian Case*

CASSANDRA SIMMONS (European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Austria) & Co-authors: RICARDO RODRIGUES (European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research, Austria), MARTA SZEBEHELY (Stockholm University, Sweden): *A Comparative Analysis of Working Conditions of Migrant and Native Workers in the Long-term Care Sector in Austria & Sweden*

ZHE YAN (University of Würzburg, Germany): *Laboring in Care: Experiencing Care Work in Chinese Nursing Homes*

## c. Agency and (Self) Organizing of Live-in Care Workers I

Moderation: JENNIFER STEINER

PAULA MÄHLCK (Linköping University, Sweden): *Servitude - Theorising Domestic and Care Work as Process of Learning*

WASANA SAMPATH HANDAPANGODA (Johannes Kepler University, Austria): *Victims and/or Agents? Revisiting the Narrative of Sri Lankan Migrant Domestic Workers in the Middle East*

ANCA DOHOTARIU (University of Bucharest, Romania): *Nannies that Care in Romania, between Formal Working Arrangements and Informal Responsibilities*

MAGALI N. ALLOATTI (State University of Santa Catarina, Brazil): *'To Be Honest, All I Wanted Was to Study': Educational Aspirations and Transnational Ties among Female Migrant Care Workers from Brazil*

16.00-16.15

Coffee Break

16.15-17.15

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

ITO PENG (University of Toronto, Canada): *COVID-19, Global Care and Migration: Towards Systemic Resilience*

Moderation: BRIGITTE AULENBACHER

17.15-18.15

Virtual Come Together

7 April 2021

9.30-10.30

PLENARY SESSION

The Commodification and Regularization of Migrant Care Work

Moderation: HELMA LUTZ

ROSIE COX (Birkbeck, University of London, United Kingdom): *A Tale of Two (Unsuccessful) Approaches to Migrant Domestic Work: Learning the Lessons from the UK Au Pair Scheme and Overseas Domestic Worker Visa*

SIMONE LEIBER (University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany) & AUGUST ÖSTERLE (Vienna University of Economics and Business, Austria): *Formalizing the Informal: The Role of Intermediaries in the (Self-)Regulation of Live-in Migrant Care Work in Austria and Germany*

10.30-10.45

Coffee Break

10.45-11.45

PLENARY SESSION

Perspectives on Care Migration in a Divided Europe?

Moderation: KARIN SCHWITER

EWA PALENGA-MÖLLENBECK (Goethe-University Frankfurt, Germany)

OLENA FEDYUK (Central European University, Hungary)

PETRA EZZEDDINE (Charles University, Czech Republic)

11.45-13.00

Lunch Break

13.00-14.30

PARALLEL SESSIONS

### a. The Transnational Commodification, Marketization and Corporatization of Live-in Care II

Moderation: BRIGITTE AULENBACHER

CHRISTINA SIEGERT (University of Vienna, Austria): *The Ambivalent Role of the Au-pair between Live-in-Worker and Temporary Family Member*

TINE HAUBNER (Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, Germany): *'Caring Communities' and the Regime of Shadow Care Work*

GLORIA ZIGLIOLI (University of Agder, Norway): *Welfare Pluralism Reforms. A Sociological View on the Current Norwegian Welfare System for Long-term Care*

SHIRI REGEV-MESSALEM (Bar Ilan University, Israel): *Care as Citizenship: Globalization, Care Work and the Welfare State*

CHIARA GIORDANO (Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium): *Gender and Ethnic Segregation and Discrimination in the Belgian Home-care Sector for the Elderly*

### b. Expectations, Contradictions and Social Inequalities in Transnational Home Care Arrangements II

Moderation: Ewa Palenga-Möllenneck

DANIELLA ARIELI (Emek Yezreel College, Israel): *Decent Care/ Decent Employment: Moral Dilemmas from a Family Caregiver Point of View*

MILENA VON KUTZLEBEN & Co-authors: MERLE WESSEL, LENA STANGE, LENA ANSMANN, MARK SCHWEDA (Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Germany): *Entangled Vulnerabilities – A Triadic Perspective on People with Dementia, Eastern European Live-in Carers and Family Carers*

VERENA ROSSOW (University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany): *Customer Complaints and Fictive Families: On Relatives of Care Recipients in Settings with Live-in Care Workers*

MICHAEL LEIBLFINGER & VERONIKA PRIELER (Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria): *Fictive Kin as a Profession? Division of Labour and Responsibility in Live-in-Care*

OBERT TAWODZERA (The University of Sheffield, United Kingdom): *Caregiving in Zimbabwean Transnational Families; Negotiating Aged Caring Relationships and Caring Practices*

### c. Regularization of Transnational Care Work I

Moderation: ARANKA VANESSA BENAZHA

CAROLINE ANNE EMBERSON (University of Nottingham, United Kingdom): *Investigating Public Sector Responses to Domestic Servitude Risk in Home-based Personalised Social Care*

KIRSTEN SCHEIWE (University of Hildesheim, Germany): *'Live-ins' and the Regulation of Working Time in the EU - Why Is it Not Implemented Properly?*

JAN KORDES (Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany): *Recruiting Nurses: Migration Policies as Spatial Fix*

JIAJU ZHANG (University of York, United Kingdom) & Co-author: JACK CHAN (Sun Yat-sen University, China) *Transregional Home Care Provision within Fragmented Policy System: A Comparative Analysis of Europe and China*

NICOLE KRAMER (University of Cologne, Germany): *Marketization by Accident: Welfare State Transformation and the Origins of Home Care Provisions in Italy and Germany*

14.30-15.00

Coffee Break

15.00-16.00

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

HILA SHAMIR (Tel Aviv University Faculty of Law, Israel): *Migrant in-Home Care Workers in the Age of COVID-19: Vulnerabilities, Coalitions, Opportunities*

Moderation: HELMA LUTZ

16.00-17.00

Virtual Come Together

8 April 2021

9.30-10.30

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS

SABRINA MARCHETTI (Ca' Foscari University of Venice, Italy): *Domestic Workers' Organizing: Intersectionality in Action*

Moderation: KARIN SCHWITER

10.30-10.45

Coffee Break

10.45-12.15

## PARALLEL SESSIONS

### a. Expectations, Contradictions and Social Inequalities in Transnational Home Care Arrangements III

Moderation: VERONIKA PRIELER

OLIVER HARRY FISHER (INCRA National Institute of Health and Science on Ageing, Italy): *Opportunities and Challenges of Household-based Migrant Care Work as a Support to Informal Caregiving: Preliminary Findings from the ENTWINE iCohort Survey*

GIZEM IRMAK SEL (Bremen International Graduate School of Social Sciences, Germany): *A Silent Pact: Negotiating Expectations and Divergence in Paid Home-Based Elderly Care in Turkey*

BASAK AKKAN (Bogazici University, Turkey): *Commodified Care Relations in Turkey: Live-in Migrant Care Workers and Elderly Care*

LUCIA AMOROSI (University of Milano, Italy): *Employment Agencies and Care: Evidence from Milan*

SANJAYA ARYAL (University of Essex, United Kingdom): *Family Care Practices among the Transnational Nepalese Care Workers: Implications of Restrictive Migration Policies of the UK*

### b. Agency and (Self) Organizing of Live-in Care Workers II

Moderation: KARIN SCHWITER

ANTIA PÉREZ-CARAMÉS (University of A Coruna, Spain): *The Debate around Migrant Care Work in Spain: Actors' Claims in a Retrenched Welfare State*

PADMAJA BARUA (Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, Norway): *Organizing the Un-organisable: Exploring the Unionization of Paid Domestic Workers in India*

CHRISTANE BOMERT (Eberhard Karls University Tübingen, Germany): *Framework Conditions and Challenges for Self-Organizing of Eastern European Live-in Care Workers in Germany*

JENNIFER STEINER (University of Zurich, Switzerland): *Contested Care: Mobilisation and Negotiation Practices in Transnational Live-in Care Arrangements in Swiss Private Households*

AGNES TURNPENNY & Co-author: SHEREEN HUSSEIN (University of Kent, United Kingdom): *Migrant Workers in the UK Live-in Care Sector: Wellbeing and Migrant Agency*

## c. Regularization of Transnational Care Work II

Moderation: MICHAEL LEIBLFINGER

MARLENE SEIFFARTH (University of Bremen, Germany): *The Role of Collective Bargaining in Regulating Domestic Work in Italy*

ANTONIO CORASANITI & Co-author: LUISA DE VITA (Sapienza University of Rome, Italy): *Care Work Regulation in Italy: Is it Still an Unsolved Problem?*

HANNY BEN-ISRAEL (Tel Aviv University, Israel): *Labor, Migration and Care Work between Altruism and Instrumentalism*

KAMIL MATUSZCZYK (University of Warsaw, Poland): *Migration Industry and Live-in Care Market – Actors and Their Strategies*

SIMONE HABEL (Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule Sankt Georgen, Germany): *The Organisation of Working Hours – An Analysis of Six ‘Pioneer’ Agencies in Live-in Care Work in Germany*

12.15-13.00

Lunch Break

13.00-14.15

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION

## Live-in Care - Quo Vadis? Policy Challenges for the Future

Moderation: BRIGITTE AULENBACHER

JUSTYNA OBLACEWICZ (Federation of German Trade Unions DGB)

ELVIRA WIEGERS (Swiss Labour Union Vpod & Respect)

KURT SCHALEK (Vienna Chamber of Labour, Austria)

UMBERTO CATTANEO (International Labour Organisation ILO)

14.15-14.30

Closing Remarks

14.30-15.30

Virtual Come Together



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6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> April 2021, online

## Registration

from March 8th, 2021  
until April 8th, 2021  
via <https://www.conftool.com/decent-care-work2021/>



## For Further Information

visit: <http://decent-care-work.net/en/conference/>  
mail: [decentcarework@soz.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:decentcarework@soz.uni-frankfurt.de)



## About the Artist: EVA LANGHANS

b. 1966, Karlsruhe, Germany; selected exhibitions: Les Livres Gallery, Colchester UK; Galerie Lauth, Ludwigshafen; Galerie Arthea, Wiesloch; Mannheim Castle, University; Galerie 10, Karlsruhe; Galerie Kistner-Bayne, Au am Rhein; Reitstadel, Neumarkt; group exhibitions: Amtsgericht Schwetzingen, Orgelfabrik Karlsruhe, G. Rothweiler; art competitions: Wesseling; Sparkasse Karlsruhe; ‚Organspende‘; Awards: 1st place Kunstpreis ‚Pflege‘, Sozialministerium Baden-Württemberg (Art Stadthaus Ulm, Kunstverein Mannheim...), Karlsruhe 2005 (one woman show, Lauth)

## Organizing Committee

HELMA LUTZ, EWA PALENGA-MÖLLENBECK, ARANKA VANESSA BENAZHA, JANA DREESBACH, AMANDA GLANERT, IGA OBROCKA (Goethe University Frankfurt); BRIGITTE AULENBACHER, VERONIKA PRIELER, MICHAEL LEIBLFINGER (Johannes Kepler University Linz); KARIN SCHWITZER, JENNIFER STEINER, ANAHI VILLALBA (University of Zurich)

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