ABOUT

Welfare states are at a critical turning point. The development of welfare systems was one of the defining characteristics of the 20th century, especially in Europe. However, in times of change, it is important to re-think “the welfare state” with a programme of innovative research designed to ask, and answer, fundamental questions about the design, delivery and experience of welfare in the 21st century. It is for this reason that New Opportunities for Research Funding Agency Co-operation in Europe (NORFACE) network has launched a major transnational programme on the topic of Welfare State Futures. This highly topical theme offers an approach from a variety of perspectives and disciplines, enables and encourages multi-disciplinarity and offers a fruitful topic for a European approach, with opportunities for comparison.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME
To advance globally excellent theoretical and methodological disciplinary, inter-disciplinary and comparative research on Welfare State Futures which builds synergistically on a pan-European basis.

To motivate and support excellence and capacity building for research on Welfare State Futures on a cross-national basis throughout the NORFACE countries.

To develop understanding and promote research-based knowledge and insight into Welfare State Futures for issues of societal, practical and policy relevance, with theoretical foundations but worked on jointly with relevant users and experts.

PROGRAMME THEMES
- People and the Welfare State
- Inequalities, Diversity and Welfare States
- Rethinking the Economics of the Welfare State
- The Future Politics of the Welfare State
- Shifting Responsibilities for Welfare

FUNDING
The programme is funded by 15 NORFACE partners and the European Commission. The Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life, and Welfare has made an additional contribution to the programme. M€ 19 of funding is allocated to fifteen projects that have started from late 2014 to early 2015. More info on www.norface.net.

SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME COORDINATOR
Professor Ellen M. Immergut of the Humboldt University Berlin has been appointed as Scientific Programme Coordinator for the research programme Welfare State Futures.
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THE PROJECTS

4IS
Inequalities, Insurance, Incentives and Immigration: Challenges and Solutions for the Welfare State
Prof. Eva Mörk Uppsala University
www.iser.essex.ac.uk/research/projects/4is

EXCELC
Exploring Comparative Effectiveness and Efficiency in Long-term Care
Prof. Julien Forster University of Kent at Canterbury
www.excelc.eu

FACSK
Prof. Lennart Nygren Umeå University
www.umu.se/sok/english/research-database/view-research-projects

GiWeS
Globalisation, Institutions and the Welfare State
Prof. Karl Moene University of Oslo
www.uio.no/esop/english/research/projects/giwes

GlobLabWS
Globalisation, Labour Markets, and the Welfare State
Prof. Caisia Montagna University of Aberdeen
www.abdn.ac.uk/business/research/norfacegloblabws-568.php

HEALTHDOX
The Paradox of Health State Futures
Prof. Ellen Immergut European Institute
www.sowi.hu-berlin.de/de/lehrbereiche/campusnetzforschung/abteilun

HESTIA
Policies and Responses with Regard to Child Abuse and Neglect in England, Germany and the Netherlands: A Comparative Multi-Site Study
Prof. Hans Grietens University of Groningen
www.projecthestia.com

HiNEWS
Health Inequalities in European Welfare States
Prof. Clare Bambra Newcastle University
hinewsproject.com

MIFARE
Migrants' Welfare State Attitudes
Prof. Marcel Lubbers Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen
www.ru.nl/sociology/research/mifare

MobileWelfare
European Welfare Systems in Times of Mobility
Prof. Helga de Valk Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute
www.mobilewelfare.org

TransJudFare
Transnationalization and the Judicialization of Welfare
Prof. Susanne Schmidt University of Bremen
www.transjudfare.eu

TRANSWEL
Mobile Welfare in a Transnational Europe: An Analysis of Portability Regimes of Social Security Rights
Prof. Anna Armelina Brandenburg University of Technology
www.transwel.org

UPWEB
Understanding the Practice and Developing the Concept of Welfare Bricolage
Prof. Jenny Philimore University of Birmingham
www.birmingham.ac.uk/generat/upweb

WelfSOC
Welfare State Futures: Our Children's Europe
Prof. Peter Taylor-Gooby University of Kent at Canterbury
blogs.kent.ac.uk/welfsoc | twitter.com/welfsoc
NORFACE PARTNERS

NORFACE is a collaborative partnership of national research funding agencies from 19 European countries in the area of social and behavioural sciences:

- Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
- Czech Academy of Sciences (CAS)
- Danish Social Science Research Council (DSSRC)
- Estonian Research Council (ETAG)
- The Academy of Finland (AKA)
- L'Agence Nationale de la Recherche, France
- Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG)
- The Icelandic Centre for Research (RANNÍS)
- The Irish Research Council (IRC)
- Research Council of Lithuania (KCL)
- Luxembourg National Research Fund (FNR)
- Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) Social Sciences
- The Research Council of Norway (RCN)
- The National Science Centre (Narodowe Centrum Nauki, NCN), Poland
- Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), Portugal
- Slovenian Research Agency (SRA)
- The Swedish Research Council (VR)
- Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
- The Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), UK
- The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada is associate partner and participates in several NORFACE programmes.

MINECO (Spain), FWO (Belgium-Flanders) and NordForsk act as observers.